

The Zero Beat

THIS MEETING

Annual Banquet
June 11, 2014
7:30 P.M.
De Carlo's Banquet Center
6015 E 10 Mile Rd
Warren, MI

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NEW OFFICERS

Here are the results of the 2014-15 election of officers:

President:	Bernie Hildebrand, W8NBC
1st Vice President:	Jim Poehlman, K8ABZ
2nd Vice President:	John Teagardin, AA8UU
Secretary:	Bill Ketel, N8QVS
Treasurer:	Robert Lauer, N8REL (Was KD8AMP)
Director:	Barbra Hildebrand, KD8SAA
Parliamentarian:	Ed Walton, N8LBS

The winners will be installed in office at the Annual Banquet.

PRESIDENT'S QRM

Greetings Everybody! The next President's QRM will be from Bernie, W8NBC, the new president.

We have the banquet coming up very shortly, on June 11, which should be a good time for those attending. There will be both prizes and awards, and a lot of friendly visiting among our members. We have become better friends and gotten to know each other a bit better, and hopefully also become more welcoming to visitors, both in meetings and on the repeater. Being "the friendliest repeater in town" does take a bit of effort, but it is a good reputation to have.

The Oak Apple Run is now recent history, and once again our club was a fairly big part of the action. Unlike other years, this time we did have a medical

incident, which required, eventually, that somebody be transported. There were quite a few folks involved in that action. Thanks to all of the folks who helped out with this year's Oak Apple Run. It gives us some good publicity.

Field day is coming a bit later this year, June 28 and 29. Once again we have our very excellent site at the Hazel Woods property, owned by the Hazel Park school district. As I read in QST about the sites that other groups use it becomes clear to me how very fortunate we are to have this location. We have a kitchen, nice restrooms complete with showers, and several bunkhouses that we use for both operating and sleeping.

My very first field day experience was at Hazel Woods, many years ago, the year that

(Continued on page 2)

W8HP HPARC FIELD DAY
6/28-29, CAMP HAZEL WOODS
ALL ARE WELCOME

OFFICERS

- **President:** Bill Ketel
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- **Technical Coordinator & W8HP Trustee :**
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- **Donuts:** Rey Bora W8REY
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- **Webmaster:** Larry Koziel
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- **Oak Apple Run Royal Oak:**
Mike WD8S
- **MS Walk Chair:**
Phil AA8KR 586-838-4139
- **Walk for Babies Chair:**
Jim K8ABZ
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QRM, CONT'D.

(Continued from page 1)

my son got his license. We rode out there and he got on the air and I watched the various operators working. It was quite a thrill to see an array of stations all running on emergency power.

Now I still enjoy the experience and having a chance to sit and talk with my friends there. And there have been some interesting experiences as well. I recommend not sleeping on the floor if you don't like mice running across your body at night. Fortunately the couch in front of the fireplace has been replaced. That couch would fold up on anybody attempting to use it as a bed. That was quite exciting on a Friday night with the place all to myself. The year that I had my two dogs with me was also a lot of fun. Two dogs sleeping in a closed van is an experience indeed.

I look forward to seeing everybody at the banquet,

73 for now,
N8QVS

DART PICNIC

The annual DART Picnic will be held on Wednesday, August 13, at 5:30 PM. Location is Green Acres Park, 620 W. Woodward Heights, Hazel Park. This is about halfway between 9 and 10 Mile Roads, west of both John R and the I-75 freeway. The WOMC broadcast tower is just down the street. (See map on the last page of this newsletter.)

The club will provide food for the grill, things to drink, plates and utensils. The rest of the food is pot luck, so think of a good dish to bring. HPARC has a pavilion for the evening.

Look for an e-mail closer to the picnic date. Besides Field Day, this is the major club activity for the summer. Come to the picnic to enjoy good food and good friends!

BILL REILLY K8DRV, SK

William James Reilly K8DRV, formerly KC8DRV, died, following a long illness, on May 8, 2014, at age 43. Bill was a member of HPARC until about a year ago.

By Chuck Perushek N8ZA

Bill always had something good to say whether it was about Ham Radio or anything else we would talk about. Bill came out to the park several times, setting up his station and making contacts before you knew it. One year, we were at Stony Creek and it was hot and very sunny. Bill just put up his big beach umbrella and went to making contacts.

That was one of my favorite times out there to see Bill and the other guys doing what we all love to do: make contacts. A few years back, I was having a problem with my computer running a program and Bill heard me talking about it on the repeater. He jumped right into the QSO, saying maybe he could help. And, that's what he did! Bill was a great guy. We should all take a lesson from him. I was over at Bill's house one day taking pictures of an old bike he was selling. I asked why he was selling it. Well, Bill



showed me his new three-wheeled bike! Boy, it was awesome! It was blue, and Bill was excited, telling me about how he was going to deck it out. I talked to him a couple of times as he was bicycle mobile, and I knew he was happy to be riding.

Last year, Bill participated in Field Day with USECA. What a guy! It was so hot! We were all so hot and exhausted, but there was Bill, just plugging away in all the heat. Field Day was great, and I am glad Bill was there.

Through everything Bill had endured, he still enjoyed life as much as anyone. Every time I think about whining about my aches and pains and not doing something, I think of Bill and others in the Ham community that have it far worse than I, or what I saw Bill go through; Bill still made it to the park, meetings, bike rides, and Field Day and didn't complain.

God Bless Bill and all the others who have come and gone.

Photos courtesy Bernie Hildebrand W8NBC and Chuck Perushek N8ZA

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.

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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 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 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. April only — test moved to Wednesday, April 9. Contact Marsha N8FE for assignments.

Macomb Community College Electronic Lab

Now 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

DAYTON REPLAY

For those who didn't make it to the Dayton Hamvention, or want more information: some of the Dayton Hamvention activities are now available online.

- Several video podcasts and possibly live-streamed video can be found by looking through the QRZ.com news forum.
- Selected Contest University sessions from 2014 and 2013 have been videotaped and released on YouTube, courtesy of Icom America: http://www.contestuniversity.com/main/page_videos.html
- Slides from the Dayton Antenna Forum will (eventually) be available at: <http://www.k3lr.com/Dayton/>

FIELD DAY—JUNE 28-29

ARRL/RAC Field Day is our big communication readiness exercise, and also a chance to spend a weekend devoted to amateur radio, the only distraction being the company of other hams.

Saturday, the day begins with breakfast around 8 a.m. at Big Boy on Baldwin Rd. near Great Lakes Crossing, just north of I-75.

Then we continue on to the Field Day site. Setup begins at 10 a.m. sharp. This gives us enough time to get all stations on the air by 2 p.m. The contest runs for 24 hours, until 2 p.m. Sunday.

This year, we intend to run 5 HF stations and 1 VHF station on phone, CW, and digital. A "Get On The Air" (GOTA) station is set aside for new hams. Operating hours are scheduled for all stations, but there's always a lot of time open for walk-ins.

Even if you don't operate much, there's plenty of work to do in the setup on Saturday and the teardown on Sunday afternoon. The teardown usually goes quickly, but still needs a lot of hands.

This year we will run Yagis on 6 and 2 meters, at least one beam plus wire antennas on HF.

Come for operating time in a friendly contest. Get operator Elmering and coaching for beginners. Watch our experienced (fast!) CW operators in action. You can also volunteer to log if you're a bit mike-shy or slow with a key.

Here's the on the air exchange:

CQ this is W8HP

— W8HP, his is W8XYZ (or just W8XYZ)

W8XYZ, WE ARE 5A MI, 5A MI QSL?

— QSL. We are 2A, MI

QSL. (then it's OK to say 73 or good luck)

See <http://www.arri.org/field-day-locator> to locate our campsite on Google Maps. Roll over the marker W8HP. For more information about Field Day, see <http://www.arri.org/field-day>. The club has all of Camp Hazel Woods the week-end. We operate from several cabins. The cabins include bunks for sleeping — bring your own linens. A mess hall gathering room with restrooms is also on site. Bill N8QVS will be the master chef.

Contact John Teagardin AA8UU with any questions.

What: Amateur Radio Field Day

Where: Camp Hazel Woods
6379 Holdridge Rd
Holly, MI 48442

When: Saturday 8 AM—Breakfast at Big Boy, Auburn Hills
Saturday 10 AM—Begin setup
Saturday 2 PM—Field Day contest runs 24 hours to...
Sunday 2 PM—Teardown begins

DIRECTIONS

About 45 miles and 50 minutes from Hazel Park.

1. Take I-75 north about 40 miles.
2. (Breakfast is at Baldwin Rd North, exit 84A, about halfway. Turn right at end of exit ramp; look to the left for the Big Boy sign. It's very close to the freeway)
3. Exit at Grange Hall Rd, exit 101, then turn right.
4. Drive 1 mile east to Dixie Highway, then turn left.
5. Drive 1.5 miles north on Dixie Highway. Pass Groveland Oaks Park on the right and Mt. Holly ski area on the left.
6. About 1/4 mile past the Mt. Holly entrance, look for Holdridge Rd. on the left. This is a gravel road with a convenience store at the corner. Turn left.
7. Camp Hazel Woods is 3/4 mile down Holdridge Rd. on the right.

Alternate Route

3. Exit at US-24/Dixie Highway, exit 93, then turn right.
4. Drive about 8.5 miles north on Dixie Highway. Pass Groveland Oaks Park on the right and Mt. Holly Ski Area on the left.
5. About 1/4 mile past the Mt. Holly entrance, look for Holdridge Rd. on the left. This is a gravel road with a convenience store at the corner. Turn left.
6. Camp Hazel Woods is 3/4 mile down Holdridge Rd. on the right.

THE ZS6BKW, MY BEST ANTENNA

By John Pawlicki K8AG

When one attempts to fashion the best antenna ever, one can lose sight of reality. Sure, resonance seems nice. But for your particular situation a resonant antenna may not be even the most efficient. Sure, 1:1 SWR is nice. But even if your antenna is efficient (high Q), a move in frequency will usually ruin the bliss of a perfect match. After 40+ years I have worked my way to the Extra Class license back when it took 20 WPM at the FCC field office, obtained a First Class Radiotelephone license with radar endorsement at that same field office, worked a short time as a broadcast engineer, and obtained 7 journeyman level CET certifications back in the 70s. I finally discovered the best antenna. The best antenna is the one that you use!

Realizing this I decided to build my own full size G5RV. It had some very appealing characteristics, requiring no radials for the dogs to dig up, little concern for ground conductivity and no moving parts (as it turns out almost no moving parts). Perhaps I could build the best G5RV within my abilities.

I didn't want to build an inverted V version (a G5RVVV?). Radio waves can cancel themselves. I have fairly large trees at opposite ends of my yard. This would allow me to get my antenna up and relatively horizontal.

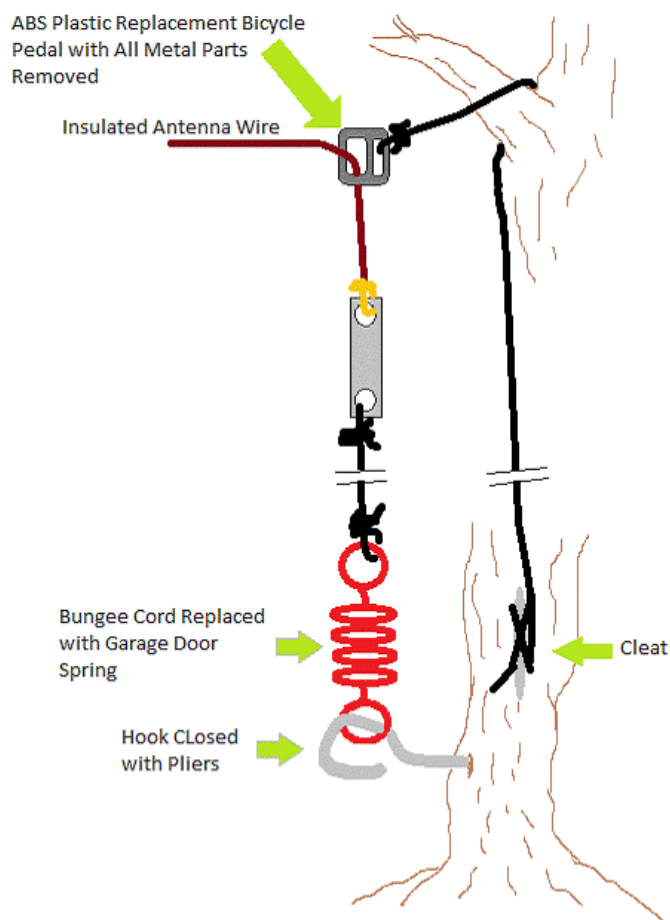
In that I wanted to operate this antenna more than maintain this antenna. I spent significant money on the wire and got the best flexible insulated wire I could buy. It still didn't cost me as much as some of the G5RV kits with inferior wire. The 450Ω window line I had bought more than a decade earlier, just in case I would need it someday.

A glass center insulator serves as the feed line connection soldered with no additional shielding from the elements. A UV resistant zip tie serves as strain relief for the window line. The end insulators were purchased but may just as easily have been fabricated from any decent insulating material strong enough and suitable for holding up the dipole under tension and

handling whatever power I might use.

Searching the Internet and reading a lot of articles about the G5RV I decided that the ZS6BKW, rather than the basic G5RV, would be the best version of this kind of antenna. The ZS6BKW provides a bit better SWR on more bands (like most of the WARC bands). It was also a bit shorter (90 feet vs 105 feet). Although my trees are at opposite ends of my yard, they are still not even 90 feet apart.

The accompanying picture is a drawing of one of the two



end mounts for the antenna. To adapt, I allowed the ends to droop down utilizing replacement bicycle pedals purchased at a sporting goods store. The pedals appear to

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BEST ANTENNA, CONT'D

be black ABS plastic. With all of the metal parts removed there are two large holes. One hole ties to the rope over the tree branch fixed to a cleat. The end insulator was attached to a line and fed through the other hole in the pedal. The line on the other end of the insulator was attached to a bungee cord and then to a hook on the tree. The bungee cords would stretch a fair amount allowing my antenna to sway in the breeze without breaking and falling down. The antenna went up and I began to operate. I heard stations and they heard me. The antenna was nearly perfect for my main general purpose antenna.

Over the next few years the only problem I had with the antenna was with the bungee cords. Trees sway in the wind and not always in the same direction. Bungee cords would allow the wire to compensate for the swing. But once or twice a year a bungee would break from dry rot or UV deterioration. I searched for other devices that could stretch when one tree went north and the other south. I considered springs. Metal springs would not dry out or crumble with UV light. But most springs that I could find were rather short and usually didn't stretch the distance needed to accommodate the swaying in the trees. I was gravitating toward springs used for closing a screen door. They are wired to compress on extension (weird). But I didn't like the hard stop when the links fully compressed. Perhaps I could chain 2 in series and get enough

extension.

Then I stumbled onto garage door springs on Ebay. These are replacement springs for counterbalancing the works of a garage door. They were exactly what I needed. They are long. They stretch quite a lot if necessary. And very importantly, they are cheap. It has been 3 years since I installed the springs and, other than a few rust spots, they are still fine.

The antenna runs through the pedals when the trees sway. But the antenna is now about 12 years old and I looked it over last fall. It is still full strength with no wear evident on the plastic coating on the wire.

Contrary to many antenna sellers who claim very low SWR over a very large set of bands, the real measure of the performance of an antenna is making contacts. A dummy load generally has a very low SWR over a very wide frequency range. But properly constructed it will radiate very little. I run QRP 99% of the time. I rarely can't make a solid contact on 5W. I have solid QSOs to Europe with as 100mW of power with this very antenna. It does require a tuner. The tuner struggles a bit on a couple of bands. But as a value including initial cost and construction and maintenance effort, I think it is the best antenna I have ever had.

73, JP, K8AG

THE ZS6BKW IN ACTION

In 1985, Brian Austin ZS6BKW (now G0GSF) applied computer analysis to G5RV's trapless dipole and came up with a design that was a better match on many bands.

The result was a 93 foot 2 inch dipole made from AWG 12 wire, with a matching section using 400-ohm ladder line, connected between the dipole element and a 50-ohm feed line. The dipole can be made from 8 to 18 gauge wire. The matching section length is 44.62 feet multiplied by the velocity factor of the ladder line. Note the radiating element and ladder line must be well clear of any metal objects, and a balun should be used at the 50-ohm feedpoint.

Using #12 wire, the SWR of a ZS6BKW antenna 65 feet above ground is:

Meters	Freq, MHz	SWR
80	3.75	11.7
40	7.15	1.14
30	10.125	> 100
20	14.175	1.37
17	18.118	1.94
15	21.2	73.7
12	24.94	1.68
10	28.8	1.57

Note that the SWR at the "good" band edges can be 3:1. At 28.0 MHz, the SWR is close to 5:1.

Links to ZS6BKW's magazine articles can be found via: <http://www.reflections.co.nz/archives/43>.

THE SEMI-INVISIBLE CONTEST

By Wes Plouff AC8JF

At first glance, the IARU HF World Championship Contest, held July 12-13, is just another DX contest with a fancy name. However, another contest lurks inside it. For 59 teams from all over the world, the World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) is a chance to prove their contest operating skills are the best in the world. WRTC is held roughly every four years as a sort of "ham Olympics."

The premise of WRTC 2014 is simple: invite the best contesters to compete against each other using stations with as many variables as possible – geography, antennas, equipment – eliminated, leaving only contesting operating skills as the determining factor. The contest committee has invited top operators to form two-man teams. The entrants comprise 59 teams, 106 men and two women. Most teams were chosen by geographic area, including one team from each US call district. Four teams are sponsored by backers of the contest. Also competing are two wild-card teams, a youth team, and the 2010 winning team of RW1A and RA1A.

The contest will be held in sixteen New England towns in the outer Boston suburbs. Each station setup will provide a triband beam on a tower, a triplexer to separate out feeds for each band, 80- and 40-meter dipoles, cables, 2 KW of generator power, a tent, tables and chairs, food and water. Contestants bring their own logging computers and 100-watt transceivers to complete two-op, two-TX configurations. But then the limits start. The radios cannot have a secondary receiver. The operators cannot use the Internet, DX spotting, CW skimmers and decoders or any pre-arrangements to find contacts. Both operators can work any band, but not the same band at once. Audio from both operating positions will be monitored by a referee and recorded. The operators may not personally identify themselves, but must use the station callsign assigned to them just before the contest starts. Logs must be submitted within 30 minutes from the end of the contest. The organizers have gone to great lengths to ensure that the competition depends solely on operating skill.

The WRTC contestants will be scored by the IARU contest scheme. This means that the WRTC stations will be making the same contacts to the same DX as everyone

else. So how will anyone know they've contacted a WRTC station? WRTC teams will be assigned "distinctive callsigns." At the Dayton Hamvention, one of the organizers dropped a big hint: think "special event." So if contact is made with a 1x1 W1 call during the contest, it's likely a WRTC competitor. We just won't know which team until after the contest ends.

The contest runs 1200Z Saturday to 1200Z Sunday, or 8 AM to 8 AM EDT. According to the K6TU propagation service, the best times for stations near Hazel Park to contact WRTC stations are 00-11Z on 80 meters, 12-14Z and 22-11Z on 40 meters, with S9+ signals heard for most of those hours. On 20 meters, New England should be heard 15-19Z, though weaker by a couple of S-units.

Since Michigan and Massachusetts are both in ITU Zone 8, HPARC members' contacts with WRTC stations have low point values. But there are other rewards. U.S. stations will receive QSLs in the mail and confirmation in LOTW from all WRTC stations they contact. Anyone contacting all 59 teams will be eligible for a certificate. The 10 stations with the highest band-mode contact count with the WRTC stations (out of 590 maximum) will receive gold medals. Stations with a band-mode count of at least 30 will be entered into drawings for medals and modest prizes. To help check WRTC logs, all stations that submit logs within 6 hours from the end of the IARU contest will be designated "Assistant Judge" and entered into another prize drawing.

One thing to remember is that the WRTC stations aren't just competing against each other. They are going to be "top gun" stations in the IARU contest. Even if not "big guns," they will be competing hard to make the same DX contacts as us. So it's not hard to predict that we'll run into wall-to-wall W1s during some parts of the contest, and they will be working QSOs faster than most of us can manage. Maybe, though, competing with these super ops will give us clues here and there to improve our own contest operations.

For more information

IARU contest: <http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship>

WRTC contest: <http://www.wrtc2014.org/>

ATTIC ANTENNA AND JT65

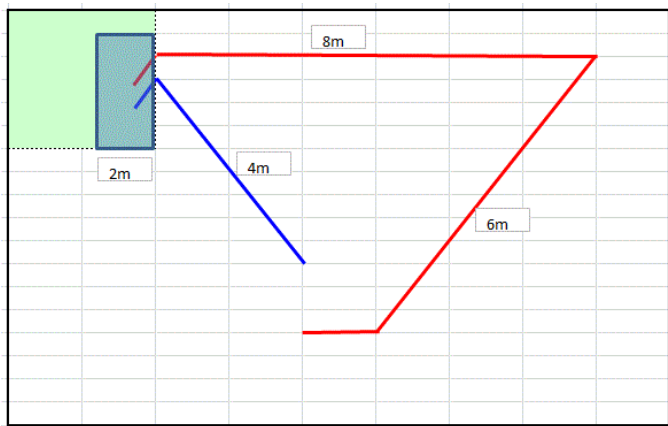
By Nozomi Tsuboi AD7TN/7K4VQV

Does anyone have any problems erecting Ham antennas where you live? Have you taken a look at the attic as an option to install your antennas?

At the apartment in Novi where I used to live, I was lucky to have the end unit, with trees in the backyard. I threw a 30ft random wire out of the window, and the end of the wire was hanging on the tree. It was working pretty well. I was able to operate on most HF bands with it.

Then, in September 2013, I moved to a condo in Wixom with no space for antennas. I could use the balconies as an option but didn't want to deal with the condo community to get permission to do so. I was chatting with my ham friend at work, Wes AC8JF, who gave me an idea, an attic antenna. I have read articles of invisible antennas but wasn't sure if they were going to work. Guess what, I came home that day and went into my shack. The door to the attic was right over my operating desk!

My project started on a weekend in October 2013. 48ft of wire was found in my parts box. I used a ladder to get into the attic. The 48ft wire couldn't be put in a straight line but instead in a V shape in the attic (see picture 1). Later on, I added an 18 ft. wire for the 10m band. For GND, I had 2 pieces of 50cm X 100cm aluminum sheet, and 4 sets of 5m wire (see picture 2/3). My station set up is in picture 4. The 48 ft random wire can be tuned from 160m up to 12m.



Picture 1. Antenna layout in attic

As soon as I was done with this work, I called CQ on 17m CW. Heard someone calling me... It was not a prefix with



Picture 2. The antennas before installing



Picture 3. The attic. Antenna barely visible on left W or K. QRZ? It was DD3SP from Germany. I was becoming confident that this antenna could work well for DXing. In fact, I was able to complete WAC in 31 hours with this antenna in the WW CW contest in November 2013. That was a great accomplishment for me.

Great things about attic antenna are:

- No maintenance is needed (How many of you had to go out fixing your antennas this past winter? Me? Never!)
- 100% invisible to my XYL (never been complained to about my antennas!)

Besides my attic antenna, the new digital mode JT65 really helps me to work with DX stations.

(Continued on page 10)

ATTIC ANTENNA AND JT65 CONT'D



Picture 4. The AD7TN shack

Joe Taylor K1JT developed the software for weak signal communications such as EME (moonbounce). You can find software for free, and now JT65 is popular on HF bands. All you need to start JT65 is a PC, PC-Transceiver interface, and JT65 software. It's amazing to see some weak signals decoded as low as -25dB signal-to-noise.

One popular software package, WSJT, is found on K1JT's website, <http://www.physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/>

Another software called JT65 HF, which I've been using, can be downloaded in the following link:

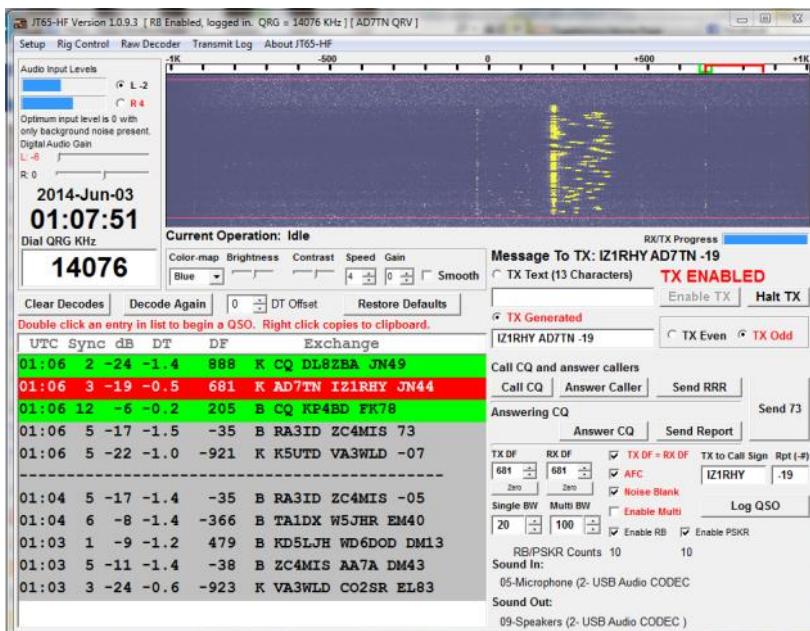
<http://jt65-hf.com/downloads/>

And here's its Set Up and Operation guide.

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Get%20on%20the%20Air%20with%20HF%20Digital/jt65-hf-setup.pdf>

Unlike RTTY, PSK31 or some other digital modes, JT65 is not a mode to chat with other hams. Only 13 letters can be sent at a time. Call sign exchange, Grid locator exchanged, signal report exchanged, and 73. That is what a QSO on JT65 is all about. It takes 6 minutes to complete a QSO.

There're lots of articles and tips for JT65 modes you can find on Internet. Have JT65 software installed on your PC and listen to frequencies like 14.076 or 21.076 (USB). You will be amazed how far you can hear from your shack. (picture 5 – Italian station is calling for my CQ on 20m)



Picture 5. IZ1RHY calling AD7TN

Important things to operate JT65 are

- 1) Make sure your PC clock is very accurate.
- 2) Have your microphone level (PC to transceiver) as low as possible, so that the ALC meter barely moves.
- 3) Run your power as low as possible (max 20-30W recommended). I can work with EU/SA easily at 5W with my attic antenna.

JT65 is very unique and very friendly for QRPers. It's a fun digital mode to try!

73 - Noz

DAYTON HAMVENTION RECAP



AC8JF's Dayton Impressions

On Friday, the weather was clear in Detroit, but rain started an hour north of Dayton. We arrived in time to attend the Antenna Forum, where I learned that running antenna farm starts with buying a farm. The flea market was full of interesting stuff, but with rain coming on and off, you never knew what gems might be hidden under the tarps. Found a great price on copperweld antenna wire.

On Saturday, hail fell at noon. Is the little Raspberry Pi computer a big player in the future of amateur radio? I was more confused coming out of the seminar than going in. The new Yaesu FTdx1200 transceiver replaces the FT-950 in the \$1,500 price range. It shares a lot of circuitry with its big brother FTdx3000. It's a pretty slick rig!

On Sunday, finally, good weather! Lots of people looked happy not to be carrying umbrellas and wearing jackets. Saw lots of used transceivers and amplifiers in the flea market, many of them less than 20 years old. The end of Windows XP means lots of bargain-priced computers could be found. Hara Arena held up pretty well.

Hamvention was a good opportunity to catch up with ham friends who I seldom see otherwise, including some from HPARC!



Photos on this page by AC8JF.

HAMVENTION RECAP CONT'D



Photos on this page courtesy Nozomi Tsuboi AD7TN

REPEATER UPDATE

By Tony Gallucci N8VR

Plans are moving ahead on getting the DART VHF repeater into the 21st century. We've received our IRLP/echolink board and John/AA8UU has mounted it in a box and is working out the details of integrating it into our Motorola Quantar repeater and Scomm Controller. A few months ago we swapped our analog phone line at the main site to a DSL data line. This allows us to connect the repeater to the internet via this new Raspberry Pi interface. If you aren't familiar with the Raspberry Pi, it's a complete computer on a small circuit board, and can use a variety of operating systems (<http://www.element14.com/community/community/raspberry-pi?CMP=KNC-USA-RPI-PRJCT>).

I'm hoping John can get the unit working in June so we can start using it this summer! At that point I'll publish the echlink and IRLP node numbers.

Here are a couple pictures of the interface and the case John has put it in.



HAMFESTS

6/01/2014 Chelsea Radio Swap 'n Shop 8-12
Chelsea Fairgrounds, 20501 Old US Highway 12
(I-94 to M-52 Chelsea exit, then north 3/4 mile)
<http://www.wd8iel.com/>
Talk-In: 145.45 (PL 100)

6/14/2014 Midland Hamfest
Salvation Army Bldg, 330 Waldo Ave, Midland, MI
Talk-In: 147.00

6/16/2014 Monroe Hamfest 7:30-1
Monroe County Fairgrounds, M-50 at Raisinville Rd.
(2 miles west of downtown Monroe)
<http://www.mcrc.org/siteimages/2014%20Hamfest%20flyer.pdf>
Talk-in: 146.72

06/21/2014 West Michigan Youth Club Hamfest 8-12
Lowell HS, 11700 Vergennes St, Lowell, MI
(East of Grand Rapids)
<http://www.westmichiganyouthclub.org/Hamfest.html>
Talk-in: 145.27 or 146.62 (both PL 94.8)

07/19/2014 GMARC Trunk Swap
Packard Proving Grounds, 49965 Van Dyke, Shelby Twp
Talk-in: 443.075 (PL 123)

07/26/2014 2014 CMARC Outdoor Hamfest 8-1
Holt Christian Church, 2424 S. Washington Rd, Lansing
<http://centralmiarc.com>
Talk-In: 145.39 (PL 100)

08/02/2014 UP Hamfest 9-?
Bay de Noc Community College, 2001 N. Lincoln Rd
Escanaba, MI
<http://dcars.org/u-p-hamfest/>
Talk-In: 147.150 (PL 100)

08/03/2014 Seaway Trunk Swap
Great Lakes Maritime Center, 5 Water St, Port Huron
(From I-94, take exit 271, Business Route I-69)
Talk-In: 147.300 (PL 100)

W1AW PORTABLE SCHEDULE

W1AW is celebrating the ARRL Centennial year by operating portable in all 50 states and many US territories. QSL by LOTW is encouraged. Still no details on paper QSLs.

June 2014

-3 Missouri, Wyoming
4-10 Alabama, Louisiana
11-17 Arkansas, Minnesota
18-24 Alaska, Montana
25-1 Illinois, Maryland

July 2014

2-8 Wisconsin, Utah
9-15 (none due to contest)
1-22 Colorado, South Carolina
23-29 Indiana, Rhode Island
30-5 South Dakota, Kentucky

August 2014

6-12 Vermont, New Jersey
13-19 Oklahoma, Maryland
20-26 Ohio, North Dakota
27-2 Arizona, Maine

September 3-9 Tennessee, Oregon

DXPEDITION

Four Michigan hams, K8AQM Ted, KG8CO Brian, N8LJ Lee and AC8W Stan, will be operating from Tonga and Fiji in the second half of August. They will use 100 watt rigs, vertical and wire antennas. Operation will be 160-10 meters on CW, digital and some SSB.

A35 Tonga — August 16-24, tentative callsigns A35TR, A35CO, A35LJ and A35AC.

3D2 Fiji — August 25-September 2, tentative callsigns 3D2TR, 3D2CO, 3D2LJ and 3D2AC.

QSLs will be handled via K8ESQ. LOTW and eQSL might be available after the DXpedition ends.

CONTESTS

For details visit the WA7BNM Contest Calendar or the ARRL Contest Roundup

June 2014

7-8 10-10 Int. Open Season PSK Contest
7-8 VK Shires Contest
7-8 SEANET Contest
7-8 Alabama QSO Party
14-15 Portugal Day Contest
14-15 GACW WWSA CW DX Contest
[14-16 ARRL June VHF Contest](#)
21 Kid's Day Contest
21-22 All Asian DX Contest, CW
28-29 His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB
28-29 Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest
[28-29 ARRL Field Day](#)

July 2014

1 RAC Canada Day Contest
5-6 Venezuelan Ind. Day Contest
5-6 DL-DX RTTY Contest
5-6 Marconi Memorial HF Contest
6 DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest
[12-13 IARU HF World Championship](#)
19-20 DMC RTTY Contest
19-20 North American QSO Party, RTTY 20
[19-20 CQ Worldwide VHF Contest](#)
[26-27 RSGB IOTA Contest](#)

August 2014

2 TARA Grid Dip Shindig
2-3 10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB
2 European HF Championship
[2-3 North American QSO Party, CW](#)
2-3 ARRL August UHF Contest
9-10 WAE DX Contest, CW
9-10 Maryland-DC QSO Party
16-17 SARTG WW RTTY Contest
[16-17 North American QSO Party, SSB](#)
17 ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY
23-25 Hawaii QSO Party
23-24 Ohio QSO Party
30-31 SCC RTTY Championship
30-31 YO DX HF Contest
31 SARL HF CW Contest

September 2014

1-2 MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint
6-7 All Asian DX Contest, SSB

MEETING MINUTES – MAY 2014

The meeting was called to order by the president, Bill N8QVS at 7:35 PM. The president greeted and welcomed everyone.

Introduction of all attendees were made.

The club welcomed visitor John Hughes KD8YGS.

John AA8UU reminded everyone about the Oak Apple Run to be held 31 May 2014. We still need more volunteers. Pre-race meeting is being held Wednesday 28 May 2014 at the Royal Oak United Methodist Church 320 W. Seventh Street Royal Oak, MI at 6:30 PM. John also gave more details about Field Day operations. Field day will be conducted 28 and 29 June 2014 at the Hazel Park Schools Camp Hazel Woods Recreation Area near Holly. Participants are invited to meet at the Big Boy Restaurant at I-75 and Baldwin Road at 8:00 AM for breakfast followed by travel to the camp grounds. More information is available from John or any board member. The W8HP repeater will have an IRLP and Echo LINK available in about 1 month.

Wes AC8JF is looking for Dayton Hamvention stories and observations to be put in the Zero Beat Newsletter.

Jerry W9NPI announced that two students from our Tech class held at LTU passed the Technician level Amateur Radio exam. Jerry is soliciting volunteers to be Blood delivery drivers for the American Red Cross blood distribution center. Please contact Jerry for more details if you are interested in this very worthwhile and needed service.

FY 2015 Board of Directors election Results: President Bernie W8NBC, 1st Vice President Jim K8ABZ, 2nd Vice President John AA8UU, Treasurer Bob N8REL, Director Barb KD8SAA, Secretary Bill N8QVS and Parliamentarian ED N8LBS.

A break was held.

Treasurer report was presented by Bob K8REL. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report pending audit. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the secretary report as published in the Zero Beat Newsletter. Motion passed by voice vote.

The drawing for the Radio Raffle will be held at the installation of officers banquet in June.

John Hughes KD8YGS announced that he is starting a

SUNDAY NIGHT NET CHECK-INS

Here are cumulative 2 meter net checkins from June 2013 through May 2014. 1 checkin:

KD8SAA	Barb	51	K8HJU	Ed
W8NBC	Bernie	51	K8KHZ	Sean
KE8UM	Murray	48	K8PEJ	Mike
KF8UU	Les	44	KB8NJP	Lamar
N8QVS	Bill	44	KB8UMA	Mike
N8LBS	Ed	42	KB8WLU	Paul
KD8SPD	Dan	41	KC8FZR	Mark
N8REL	Bob	36	KD4BIO	Ken
KE8UD	Paul	35	KD8MFR	Bruce
KD8NYB	Chuck	34	KD8NBF	Al
AA8OZ	Paul	33	KD8RCU	Doug
K8ABZ	Jim	21	KD8SRQ	Tony
KD8LWC	Walt	20	KD8THQ	Josh
KD8STM	Mike	10	KD8UMB	Ed
AB8RH	Don	7	KD8VXZ	JD
AA8UU	John	6	KD8WAP	Jeff
KB3EHW	Reuven	5	KF8WR	Ted
N8AE	Carl	5	K18JL	Roy
N8ZU	Ray	5	KK4HIR	Mike
KD8SBL	Ron	4	N8AAU	Mike
N8RLN	Brian	4	N8CPH	Josh
KD8QBA	Mike	3	N8DHC	Jim
KD8UMV	Sean	3	N8FE	Marsha
KD8UMZ	Tony	3	N8FM	Steve
AB8HI	Jerry	2	N8ZZE	John
K8JRE	Joe	2	N9ZTS	Justin
KD8COJ	Gordon	2	VA3TGN	Tim
KD8ROQ	Frank	2	W8BHF	Bob
KD8UNJ	Robert	2	W8HL	Lee
N8ZU	Ray	2	W8NN	Andy
W1IK	Jim	2	W8VPC	Mike
W8VPC	Mike	2	W9NPI	Jerry

CERT team for the City of Hazel Park.

Club officers present: President Bill N8QVS, 1st Vice President Jim K8ABZ, 2nd Vice President Larry K8MU, Treasurer Bob K8REL, Secretary Walt KD8LWC, Parliamentarian ED N8LBS and Director Jerry W9NPI.

Respectfully submitted, Walt KD8LWC

JUNE 2014

HPARC ZERO BEAT

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Banquet

June 11

Field Day

June 28-29

DART Picnic

August 13

2014 MEETINGS

(tentative dates)

September 10

October 8

Hoover Elementary School

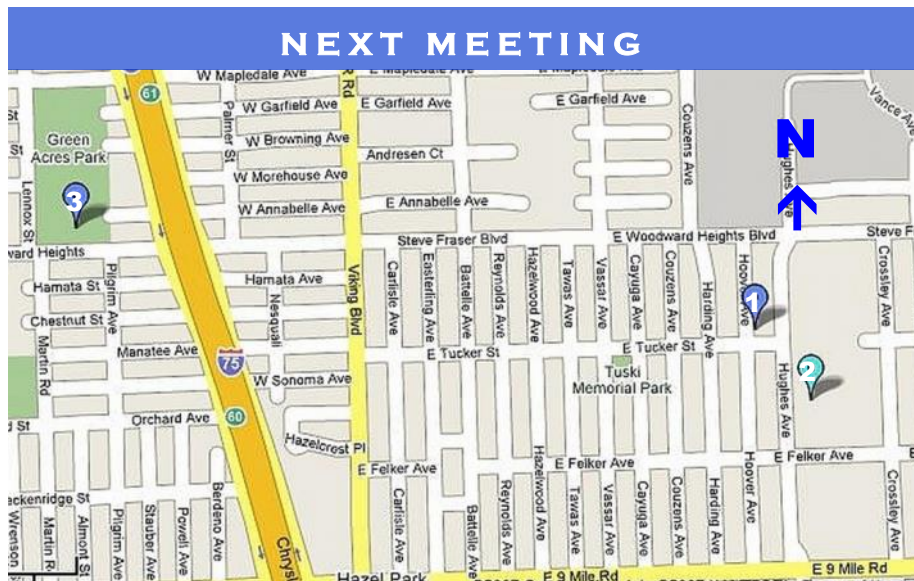
23720 Hoover Ave.

Hazel Park 48030

TIME

Socializing @ 7:00 PM

Meeting @ 7:30 PM



1 Meeting 2 Swap 3 Picnic

We're on the Web

www.hparc.org



Scan this QR code to visit the
HPARC web site



Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 368
Hazel Park, MI 48030



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