



The Zero Beat

Volume 30 Issue 8

April 1995

HPARC INCORPORATION HITS SNAG!

GOING ONCE, GOING TWICE...

President's QRM

I'm afraid I have to admit that a few of the concerns some of the membership voiced regarding the incorporation of the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club appear to have been well founded. Yesterday, I was informed by Ms. Lirpa Loof, the club's new legal counsel, that HPARC was the target of an attempted leveraged buyout late in March of 1995.

Many of you may have read about the recent failure of the Barings Bank in England, due to the actions of Nick Leeson, a rogue trader in the bank's Singapore office. Apparently the State of Michigan's pension fund portfolio was caught in one of Leeson's arbitrage hedges on the Japanese Nikkei Stock Exchange, and the assets of most of the State of Michigan's non-profit corporations were exposed as a result.

The good news is that after spending nearly twenty four hours (and only about a quarter of the club's treasury) on overseas calls, Ms. Loof managed to prevent control of the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club Inc. from falling into the hands of Nippon Guano Kogayu, Ltd. Now for the bad news... things won't be finalized until the Securities and Exchange Commission hearings scheduled for June, but it appears that the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club is now a wholly owned subsidiary of the Indonesia Manganese and Potash Mining Corp.

Beginning with the May 1995 meeting, the HPARC General Membership meetings will be held in the gymnasium of the Suharno Elementary School in Jakarta, Indonesia. The program for the evening will be "Preventing Jungle Rot in Foam Core RG-8x" and "Distinguishing Your Feed Line From Whip Snakes". Complimentary coconut milk and betel nuts will be served during the break.

Let's look at the bright side. Our new "YH0" call prefixes should be ready by the meeting. See you there! I'll be the one in the dark burgundy HPARC sarong.

FCC Stuns Hams With New Auctions to Private Sector

Gettysburg - April 1, 1995 - Faced with increasing pressure from Washington to generate additional funds to offset the expenses of its day to day operations, the Federal Communications Commission announced that it will begin auctioning off the earth's ionosphere to commercial interests beginning in the Spring of 1996.

According to Commissioner Howell N. Ruse, "The ionosphere has been underutilized since the Commission was first given its charter to sell off, er...uh, manage the radio related assets of the American Public. It's time to put a stop to these free ions and electrons running amok without direction from the government."

Ruse said the auction will be broken into four parts, or gates. "At first we thought we'd be limited to only three auctions; namely the F, E, and D layers. Then some smart science type pointed out that if we made sure the first two auctions were concluded before nightfall, we could create separate gates for the F1 and F2 regions.. Think about it...that's a revenue enhancement of over thirty percent at little or no cost to the taxpayers."

FCC spokespersons denied that the planned auction will significantly impact licensed Amateur Radio operators, maintaining that current hams will be allowed to utilize the propagation afforded by the F2, E, and D layers on a "shared use" basis. Although officials at ARRL headquarters were not available for comment a janitor we woke in the middle of the night at the League's Newington, Connecticut headquarters stated that the FCC action will not effect regular monthly deliveries of QST or the ARRL's expected advertising revenues.

Concerned parties are welcome to comment on the proposed sale in writing. Letters should be sent to: Federal Communications Commission, Break Room Refuse Container #2, Gettysburg, PA 40195.

Hams Lured by Siren Song Heard in Oakland County

by Jim N8QMD

There are over 150 warning sirens in Oakland County. Sometimes fewer than half of them are checked. Will the one near YOU work when needed?

Everyone has experienced severe weather. Many club members have taken training for and are active participants in Skywarn. Not everyone may realize the value of the scheduled siren tests.

When severe weather moves into our area, the National Weather Service (NWS) is able to give advance notice to counties which may be affected. The Oakland County office of Emergency Management then requests that the Amateur Radio Public Service Corps (ARPSC) initiate a Skywarn Net. During the Net, Emergency Management monitors Net reports. When conditions are reported that require that a warning be issued to County residents, Emergency Management activates the warning sirens.

The severe weather appears on the NWS state-of-the-art color Doppler radar, but Emergency Management relies heavily on the Skywarn Net, because the observation of the Skywarn spotter confirms NWS radar.

Because the Skywarn Net is controlled from the Emergency Operations Center Amateur Station, siren activation can occur before NWS can issue a warning over regular broadcast media.

Neither Doppler Radar nor the Skywarn Net is of any use if the sirens do not respond when activated. The best way to know if the early warning system will work is to test it. Each siren in the county is energized at 1:00 p.m. on the first Saturday of the month for a 3 minute test. Those which fail to operate are scheduled for repairs and re-checked the next month. Sirens cannot get maintenance if their needs are not known.

The ARPSC would like to increase the number of sirens tested. We have divided this task into a Main Net on the SMART (147.14) and several local Sub-nets. The Southeast Oakland County Sub-net has chosen to use our Club repeater, the DART, (146.64) because of its excellent coverage. While some HPARC members help regularly, we would appreciate more participation.

During the test last March the ARPSC set a new record of 95 sirens tested! The Southeast Oakland County net, with

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myself as Net Control, contributed a Sub-net high 21 sirens. County Emergency Management was elated.

The siren test on Saturday, May 6, 1995 has been targeted by Oakland County Emergency Management as a day to beat all records, so the challenge is now to beat 95 sirens.

Currently, sirens in the Troy and Rochester Hills areas are not well covered. With help from the HPARC membership we can do better. There are 18 sirens in Troy and Rochester Hills alone, with at least ___ in communities in range of the DART.

Please check into the Net May 6, beginning at about 12:00 p.m. There will also be an information bulletin and complete 1995 siren test schedule handed out at the next club meeting. There, WD8JWM Barry, Deputy Emergency Coordinator for Oakland County ARPSC and N8MQD Jim, Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Training, will make a short presentation on the ARPSC.

HPARC Gourmands Laud Annual Culinary Conclave

Ahhh!!! The time has come for all good men and women (and the not-so good) to fete their fellow amateurs at the **Annual Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club Banquet.**

The local repeaters have buzzing for weeks with inquiries concerning the venue and cost of this legendary bacchanal. The cat, as they say at many Thai restaurants, is out of the bag and into the stewpot.

You may instruct your chauffeur to deposit you and your guests at the world-famous **Stephenson Haus, 25000 North Chrysler Drive, in Hazel Park Michigan on Wednesday, June 14, 1995 at 6:30 p.m.** Dinner (\$13 per person) begins at 7:00 p.m., with a Norm Cash bar beforehand (chewing tobacco optional). Rumor has it that this years door prizes are even better than '94s!

Although John Engler, Kato Kaelin, Opus and the Mayor of Yawning Maw, Indiana have yet to RSVP, we have it on good authority that the outgoing and incoming HPARC boards will be in attendance. Mark June 14th on your social calendar and plan to attend with the rest of your HPARC buddies and pals. Bring a friend, wife, husband, parent or your parole officer.

See Barry WD8JWM at the meeting for your tickets or give him a call (810) 661-6965. If you get Barry's answering machine, please leave a message...he'll get back to you in a trice.

Prez's QRM (No Foolin')

Spring is here and if it isn't, don't blame the groundhog. Spring also means Dayton Hamvention, which will be held this year April 28th-30th. If you get the chance to go to Dayton, don't pass it up. The club has 10 rooms this year at the Holiday Inn in Troy, Ohio. Not everyone has a roommate yet, so if you want to go and are willing to bunk with someone, let it be known at the next club meeting. Next year the Hamvention will be 3 weeks later in the year. We will try to get more rooms since the warmer weather is sure to translate into increased attendance.

Our guest speaker at April's meeting will be Jim N8QMD from the Oakland County Emergency Operations Center. Jim is the EOC Training Officer and will help you understand how to and how not to check into a Skywarn net, and what happens to the reports that are given to the County by the nets. This is extremely important information that every HPARC member should be familiar with, even if you have not gone through formal Skywarn training. The County has their hands full during dangerous weather conditions; it's responsible for forwarding information gathered during these nets to the National Weather Service, and proper on-air operating procedures make their job a lot easier.

Don't forget the HPARC Banquet on June 14, where we will toast and install the new club officers for 1995-1996. If you have never been to an HPARC banquet, why not attend this one? Besides a terrific dinner, there will be an installation ceremony for the newly elected officers who will act as the stewards of our freshly incorporated club.

Plans for Field Day '95 (June 24th & 25th) are going great. Marty and Dave have been hard at work...you'll see a number of changes that will make the event a real treat for all. A full Field Day report will be given at the May 1st Board Meeting. All members are welcome to attend.

Some good news for those who are not able to attend the 7:00 am Friday morning breakfast at the Rams Horn on Woodward near 13 mile; many of the Buddies and Pals are also meeting for breakfast on Saturdays at 10:00am at the same spot.

73's for now and best of DX.
Mike - WD8S

The Real Information "Super Highway"

by Steve - N8ZLK

Everywhere I go now the computer folks inundate me with their exploits on Internet. These "Internet Surfers", "World-Wide Web Walkers", and "Cyberspace"-men are driving me crazy with their great stories of how they've wandered the earth, taking side trips off the "Information Highway" gathering arcane bits of information from remote corners of the "Net" from obscure databases. Ho-hum!! Most of them pay some service fee to get into Internet, or steal access from their employers. Meanwhile, back in my shack, I can wander a net of just my friends and fellow amateur radio operators for free. No connection charges, usage charges, or service charges,just free.....except for a little extra equipment, but what ham do you know that wouldn't want some more "cool stuff" in their shack.

Packet radio is where this "Net" is, and is there a lot of surfing you can do. If you like Internet with it's 5,000 or so newsgroups but think that's overload, try packet. Most of the packet BBS's carry just the ham related internet newsgroups. Want some equipment?--Check the Swap newsgroups. Need new "Keps" for your satellite tracker?--Check the AMSAT newsgroup. Anything that's "ham" related is probably carried by one of the packet BBS's. Give them a try.

Do you just want to rag-chew with someone? There is always someone on frequency that will go "keyboard-to-keyboard" with you, or if you can't find anyone, just leave them mail in their packet mailboxes, or at their home BBS. They'll get back to you. I get a thrill out of going home each night and seeing that I have packet mail to answer.

Are you a DX chaser? Try one of the packet DX-Clusters. You'll find the time, frequency and call sign of DX stations that have been contacted lately. If you're fast, you'll be able to catch those rare DX stations and maybe even help improve your chances of getting that coveted DXCC sooner.

Do you want to talk to some DX stations on packet? Check out DETQSO. You can connect to it locally and pound out a QSO with folks from all over the country; and there are always hams in there from all over Europe. Once you've made contact with one or more of these stations, you can move off to a more private channel so you don't have to see everyone else's QSO.

It's a lot of fun and well worth a try when you're on packet. In fact I made my first packet contact on DETQSO with a ham in Alabama.

Are you a Sky Warn observer, or just interested in the most recent weather observations and forecasts? There are a number of packet stations that have the official weather reports, etc. from the National Weather Service.

The packet network is nation-wide and that allows it to be an integral part of the National Traffic System (NTS). A lot of messages originate, or are routed to the packet network for delivery in the appropriate part of the country nearest the recipient. So you can use the local traffic BBS's to send your far away family and friends NTS messages without having to remember to bring your traffic to the local NTS nets. Your messages are automatically routed node to node to their destination. Of course, somewhere along the way they may be taken off the packet network and passed as normal traffic on the CW and voice nets to expedite delivery. Packet NTS traffic receives the same attention as NTS traffic passed in the traditional modes, so if you send via packet, it will get there.

If I've piqued your interest in packet, get yourself a Terminal Node Controller (TNC); hook it up to a 2-Meter rig, and a terminal or computer and join us. We're somewhere between 144.910 to 145.090 (channels spaced every 20 Khz... I'm usually always on 145.030). Don't be shy when you get out here; just connect to our mailbox (usually the call sign followed by a "-1" like this N8ZLK-1), and send ("s") us a message. We'll get back to you.

Next time I'll get into more of the details of packet..... Like every aspect of anything technical, packet has its own terminology, a new vocabulary to learn. I'll describe some of that terminology to help dispel the mystic. In the meantime, I hear Cyberspace calling. Someone just connected to my packet station. It could be something important. Maybe someone has discovered a secret database lurking in the bottom of one of the packet BBS's that will tell me what next weeks Lotto Numbers are. Ah, can't wait to buy more radio toys.

73s--Steve N8ZLK

Sweating it - Out or In?

Want to add a stylish HPARC sweatshirt to our line of fashionable club couture? Pore out your feelings on the matter to Phil AA8KR at the next meeting. Do you think the idea is simply gland or is it the pits?

The Swap Hound

Sleazy fine print: Swap Hound listings are based on whatever event listings your editor can scam from other newsletters, spontaneous hallucinations and post sixties flashbacks. Errors are guaranteed to creep in on a regular basis. Before wasting your gas and time, double check with a credible source.

SUN APR 9 GROSSE POINTE, MI - Southeast Michigan ARA Swap&Shop. Grosse Pointe North High School. Tables - \$10. Trunk Sale - \$5. Admission - \$3 advanced, \$4 at door. VE Testing. Talk-in on 146.74. Call (313) 886-6354 for more info.

FRI-SUN APR 28-30 DAYTON, OH - Dayton Hamvention '95. Hara Arena. Advance Admission \$12 (valid all three days) \$15 at door. Phone (513) 276-6930 for more info.

SAT MAY 20 CADILLAC, MI - Wixonkee Hamfest & Swap. Cadillac Middle School. Call Dan KE8KU (616) 775-0998 for more info. Talk-in on 146.98(-).

SUN MAY 21 HOLLY, MI - Holly Hamfest & Computer Show - Fenton ARA. Ben Sherman Middle School. Admission - \$4 adults, \$1 Students. For more info call Marty at (800) 429-3492.

Minutes Of March 1995 HPARC Meeting

by James "Casey Jones" Bunting - KE8QT

Meeting commenced 7:35 p.m. with welcome and introductions. Motion by KB8RSH to accept the minutes of the February, 1995 meeting. Seconded by KA8NDY. Passed. Treasurer's report by K8TRF. Motion to accept by KA8NDY. Seconded by K8VDA. Passed. Program on QRP rigs and operation presented by Buck, N8CQA and Byron, WA8LCZ. Broke for refreshments at 8:15; resumed 8:40. Indication of interest in more club jackets. Reminder that club is still looking for operators for Field Day. Expression of interest in participating in Michigan QSO party, mid-May. Tom, N8TMQ, has volunteered the use of his house in Arenac County for the event. Notice of club banquet June 14. Tickets available at the April meeting. Novice class has 28 students. Advanced electronics class has 6-8 people. Advance notice of Oak Apple Run Saturday June 3. Ed, KA8NCH coordinating. MS Walk through Birmingham needs volunteers for April 23 event. Al, KA8PEH coordinating. Bud, K8MXM, donated a noise filter as a club door prize. KE8QT read letter of thanks from Verline, K18V, for the club's vote to make her a life member in recognition of her trusteeship of the club call. Discussion of the process to get the club incorporated. New members accepted and welcomed. Membership prize won by Pat, KB8VWK. Meeting adjourned 9:35 pm.

Unclassifieds

Yaesu FT 1000D w/all filters, Matching Yaesu speaker w/filters. Asking \$3600 Call Tom AE8O 810-227-9595.

Yaesu FT-707 HF rig, with 20A power supply, Shure 444 desk mike, William Nye key & keyer. \$550 for all. **ICOM IC-271 2 Meter** all-mode. \$500. Call Bill N8HFM (810) 549-4444 during daytime.

Call For Volunteers - Oak Apple Run - June 3, 1995

Once again the call goes out to all Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club members and their ham radio friends to participate at the 18th Oak Apple Run as Amateur Radio operators. This represents the Clubs ~~8th~~ ^{8TH} consecutive year of Community Service to the OAR.

We need amateurs with handhelds or radio equipped automobiles to help at Medical Team locations and assignments at key street intersections. Even if you don't own an HT or mobile rig you can be of assistance to another appropriately equipped ham. Hams who volunteer will aid the medical teams in communicating with the Net Control Center should runners require medical help, help keep cars off the course during the Run, and report any other situation. unusual circumstances requiring assistance.

Yellow police barrier ribbons will be placed along the course prior to the race. Amateur operators will receive additional ribbons for use at intersections. Many streets will be blocked off during the race and there are bound to be unhappy persons who want access to restricted areas. Remember to bring a smile and a full supply of diplomacy.

A pre-race meeting will be held on Friday June 2 at 6:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Royal Oak, 320 West 7th St., [between Washington Ave. and Lafayette Street], Royal Oak, Michigan. Volunteers must attend this meeting to receive instructions and assignments.

A sign-up sheet will be available at the April and May HPARC meetings. Any questions, please call Mike WD8S 399-7970 or Mike N8EQD 549-5605

The Zero Beat Oakland County ARPSC 1995 Siren Testing Schedule

The ARPSC has organized siren test nets to coordinate the check each siren in the county. During the siren test, the ARPSC operate a main net and sub-nets. At 1:00 p.m., the sirens are activated for 3 minutes. After the test, malfunctions are reported to the Siren Test Net and in turn to the County for scheduled maintenance and repairs.

This testing takes place at 1:00 p.m., but check-ins start at 12:00 p.m. local time to allow time to drive to the siren site.

<u>Area</u>	<u>Frequency Repeater</u>	<u>Club or Organization</u>
Oakland Cty	147.140 (+) SMART	Main Net
Oakland Cty	146.840 (-) CLARKSTON	NE Oakland & 1st Bkup
Oakland Cty	145.490 (-) 8-BIT	2nd Backup Repeater
Oakland Cty	146.640 (-) DART	SE Oakland & 3rd Bkup
Farmington	146.490 (s)	Farmington ARC
Milford	146.900 (-)	MARC
Novi	146.475 (s)	NARC
Novi	444.800 (+)	NARC
Oak Park	146.640 (-) DART	Oak Park ARES
Southfield	146.640 (-) DART	Southfield ARES

☞ Mark your calendar! ☞

- Saturday May 6 (TARGET - LET'S GO FOR A RECORD)
- Saturday June 3
- Saturday July 1 (Independence Weekend)
- Saturday August 5
- Saturday September 2 (Labor Day Weekend)
- Saturday October 7
- Saturday November 4

Rockers Keep On Rollin'

An HPARC and Zero Beat tip of the antenna goes to Gene WB8OSZ and all of the regulars on that fast-paced freewheeling forum of fun and frolic, the Rocking Chair Net. Not content with marking the 11th year of the popular net on March 10, 1995, Gene and the Rockers stunned the local amateur community by logging net number 2,500 on March 14th!

The Rockers meet Monday through Saturday on 145.625 AM or FM simplex. Why not check, in lean back, break open a cold beverage, and offer your personal words of congratulations and encouragement to the amplitude challenged.

Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club

President

WD8S - Mike Van Buren
2263 Shevlin
Ferndale, Mich. 48220
(810) 399-7970

First Vice President

AA8KR - Phil Ode
4508 Whisper Way
Troy, Mich 48098
(810) 641-9723

Second Vice President

KA8WBQ - Bruce Merrill
1419 Harvard
Berkley, Mich. 48072
(810) 398-6496

Treasurer

K8TRF - Dave Benham
4105 Cumberland
Berkley, Mich. 48072
(810) 280-0385

Secretary

KE8QT - James Bunting, Esq.
162 Hillboro
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301
(810) 645-2704

Parliamentarian

AA8JN - Frank Cunningham
21535 Wendell
Mt. Clemens, Mich. 48043
(810) 465-6694

Director

KF8KS - Steve Harris
88 Duncan
Troy, Mich. 48098
(810) 689-4048

Club Call Trustee

K18V - Verline Ferris
Hazel Park, Mich. 48030

Board of Directors Meeting Schedule:

April 3, 1995
May 1, 1995
June 5, 1995

HPARC Chairpersons

Membership Chairman & Badges AA8KR Phil
VE Team Co-Chairs - WD8S Mike N8SWQ Bill
Novice Classes - N8UUF, KA8NDY, WB8YRV
Zero Beat Editor - KG8OW Arian
Mailing Crew - KA8NCH Ed,
WB8OSZ Gene, KB8NH Bill
DART Board of Directors- WD8S, NR8D,
WD8JWM, KA8PHP, KG8OW
Repeater Trustees - 2m N8MLM 440 N8EQD

CW Net Managers - AA8JN Frank N8WYO Al

2m Net Manager - KE8QT Jen

Kids Net Manager - KB8TVE Joe

Club Refreshments - K8DZT Frank

Club Tee Shirts - N8UUS Phil

Public Information Officers - AA8EG, WB8TIV

Club Equipment Custodians - KF8KS, WB8ATZ

County Liaison - KA8PEH Al

Dayton Hamvention Trip Chairman - WD8S Mike

Club Jackets - K8DZT Frank

1995 Field Day - Marty KB8RSH Dave KB8RXX

Rocking Chair Net Manager - WB8OSZ Gene

Club HF Awards Manager - KB8NKD Dick

Club VHF Awards Manager - KB8HSR Tim

ARRL Technical Coordinator - AA8EG Don

1995 Banquet Chariman - WB8JWM Barry

1995 Swap n Shop - N8TMQ Tom

Club Repeaters - DART (Detroit Area Repeater Team) Sponsor Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club
2 Meters - 146.640 (-)
440 Mhz - 443.225 (+)

2 Meter HPARC Net- Sundays 9:p.m. 146.640-DART

15 meter CW Novice Net 8 p.m. Mondays 21.125

15 meter CW Net 8:00 p.m. Tuesdays 21.125

Kids 2 meter Phone Sundays 7:00 p.m. 146.640-DART

Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club
Post Office Box 368
Hazel Park, MI 48030



KA8NCH 11-95

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