## N E W S

## The Zero Beat



Vol. 30 No. 16 December 1995 Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club

## **HPARC**

- Wishes You Peaceful Holidays

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Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club An ARRL Special Service Club

Board of Directors
President - WD8S, Mike

1st Vice President - AA8KR, Phil

2nd Vice President - KG8QT, Marty

Secretary - KE8QT, Jim Treasurer - K8TRF, Dave Director - N8TMQ, Tom Parliamentarian - N8ZLK.

Sterio

Repeaters

146.640 (-) N8MLM 443.225(+) N8EQD

#### Nets

146.640 7:00 pm Sun - Kids 146.640 9:00 pm Sun - General 21.125 8:00 pm Mon - CW 21.125 8:00 pm Tue - CW

#### The Presidential Podium

- "Fearless Leader" speaks. . .

By the time you are reading this, our annual Swap will be history. Once again, I'm sure it has been successful.

Thanks to the entire crew who helped set up, sell tickets, and tear down afterwards. A special thanks to Tom N8TMQ, this year's Swap Chairman, for a job well done. This was Tom's first Swap, and maybe he'll chair another if we "encourage" him well enough.

Next general membership meeting will be our annual Christmas gathering; Jerry N8UUF and Pat KB8VWK are in charge of the food and prizes, and promise a meeting to remember. Be sure to be there!

Also at the next meeting will be a slide presentation of Hazel Park Field Day activities, including this last Field Day. This should bring back the memories, eh?

Did you have as much fun at Sweepstakes as I did? Did anyone beat me this year? Don't forget to bring your logs to the next meeting, so Marty KG8QT can get them off to the ARRL for Club points. Be sure that your log includes Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club to identify where the points should be credited.

That's about it for December's HPARC Amateur Radio activities. Let me close by wishing all of you safe and joyous holidays.

73 from "da Prez!"

Mike Van Buren WD8S

### The Swap Hound

- Let's make a deal.

Notice: Don't believe everything that you read here. Listings are found on the street, so be sure to practice safe ewap. Errors will occur on a random basis. Objects in your mirror may be closer than they appear.

For Sale:

A complete set of QST magazines, from 1966 to the present. Call Carl W8BGH at 810.644.3804.

Wilson 3 element system 4-bander, \$40.00 My wife said to get it out of the yard or I will have to go. Help me, it is down and ready for pick up. Call Don WASE at 810.574.1756.

Telix Tape Measure Dipole for portable use, great for camping. List price is \$200.00 I have some used ones, will let go for \$75.00, first come first served. When they're gone, they're gone! Call Mike WD8S 810.399.7970.

December 3, 1995. HPARC SWAP. Hazel Park High School. Call Tom N8TMQ to volunteer to help or to reserve a table.

#### **HPARC Board Meetings**

All Board meetings are at 7:30 pm, Hoover Elementary School

December 4, 1995 January ??, 1996 February 5, 1996 March 4, 1996 April 1, 1996 April 29, 1996 June 6, 1996

#### **Public Service Corner**

- The Service part. . .

Every Night at 10:15 pm.

SouthEastern Michigan Traffic Net
(SEMTN) meets to pass National
Traffic System (NTS) Traffic. Check in
on the Edison Repeater, 145.33 (-)
whether you have traffic or not. This is
also a Training Net, so there tips and
techniques to be learned.

Every Wednesday at 9:00 pm.
Oakland County Amateur Radio Public
Service Corps (ARPSC) net on the
SMART, 147.140 (+). All are invited
to check in.

### **Testing, Testing**

- Be all you can be.

If you have recently upgraded, congratulations! Please let Phil AA8KR know so he can update the membership roster. 810.641.9723. Also, let the Editor know and your call sign, name and new license class will appear in this fine publication for all to admire.

#### - Up, Up and Away

(A lot of upgrading happened in the HPARC last summer: if I missed you, let me know)

If it's your turn, try any of the following:

HPARC VE testing: Call Mike WD8S at 810.399.7970 or Bill N8SWQ at 313.533.5962. January 25, 1996 March 28, 1996 May 30, 1996

Oak Park VE testing: Call Jeff N8WRY at 810.642.3608 December 4, 1995 February 6, 1995 April 2, 1996 June 4, 1996.

Motor City Radio Club VE testing: Call 313.676.6248 December 13, 1995.

#### **Contests and Events**

- The Hobby part. . .

Please note: these listings are only brief highlights. Complete Contest and Event information is contained in the ARRL QST.

Straight Key Night 7:00 pm EST Dec 31, 1995 to 7:00 pm EST Jan 1 1996.

OST, December, 1995

"This is a friendly meeting on the air using straight keys. Suggested areas of operation on 80, 40 and 20 meters are 60-80 kHz from the lower band edges, and 10 kHz from the lower Novice band edge."

The HPARC CW Net will have a special meeting on December 31, 1995 at 8:00 pm EST (04:00 UTC) on 21.125 kHz. This is the last CW Net of 1995, so hook up that new Rig you got for Christmas, plug in your Straight Key and join in the fun.

"When participating in SKN, use SKN instead of RST preceding the three-digit report to clue in passersby."

"Following SKN, send a list of stations worked and your vote for best fist heard (not necessarily one you worked) and most interesting QSO during that period. This is not a contest: quick and contest-like exchanges are discouraged. Mail your report by January 10, 1996 to ARRL HQ."

The ARRL will publish excerpts from reports. We can't wait to see what some of the HPARC members report. The infamous "dit-dit" ceremony is probably in its own category, but may qualify as Most Interesting QSO with a bit of imagination.

### **Club Clothing**

- Seeking Sartorial Splendor?

Want to be the envy of your peers? Looking for a way to make a fashion statement wherever you go? You want to see a Mohan; Phil II N8UUS, Phil III KG8UC, Bob KB8TVD or Joe KB8TVE at any Club function, or call Phil II at 810.932.2141.

	T-Shirt	Jacket Flannel	Jacket Quilted
		Lining	Lining
Size		Price	***
S-XL	6.00	32.00*	37.00*
2X	7.25	34.50	39.50
3X	8.50	37.00	42.00
4X	9.75	39.50	44.50
5X	11.00	N/A	N/A

\*Imprinting of up to two lines is already included in these prices.

The Club contribution of \$10.00 towards a jacket is included in all jacket prices.

## Disappearing Acts - Whatever happened to . . .

Sunday Night Kid's Net?

Last year, Joe KB8TVE organized a fun hour on the DART 2m Repeater, which was specifically to encourage kids to participate in Amateur Radio. The ideas was to have an open net, where kids could talk to other kids, and in the process learn a bit about Amateur Radio.

The Kid's Net went well until late Spring and early Summer. Sundays at 7:00 pm the repeater was active with young voices, but tapered off and went quiet during summer vacation. Fall is here, and Winter is just around the corner, but the repeater is still strangely quiet at that time. There are several possible explanations for this:

- 1. There are no more kids, because aliens abducted them all. Alien abduction could also explain poor HF band propagation; maybe the E and F layers are just the right octane ions needed for their matter-antimatter engines and they have been slowly depleting the layers over their repeated visits.
- 2. All of the kids were injected with rapid-growth hormone, and grew up, leaving no more kids.

- 3. The kids are still here among us and doing just fine, but since returning to school have discovered the true joy that pursuit of knowledge brings, and have thus forsaken foolish pastimes such as talking to their friends on either the telephones or radio repeaters in favor of engaging in continuous studies.
- 4. Parent's have not set aside time so that their un-licensed kids can talk "Third-party" on the air.

Number 1 can't be the right explanation, since that would mean that the various tabloids were RIGHT.

Number 2 is not likely, since there have been no reports of Toys-R-Us stockholder suicides.

Number 3 doesn't work either, since neither MCI, Sprint or AT&T have announced Going-Out-of-Business sales yet, but some of their commercials sound a bit desperate.

Number 4 can't be right since the parents we know take time necessary to attend soccer games, Parent-Teacher meetings and the like to help in their child's development.

#### The "440 DART"

As if the disappearance of the kids wasn't enough, we may have misplaced an entire Repeater system! Surely all of the Club members know that this Club and its DART subsidiary operates two repeaters. The 146.64 MHz machine is well known as the "Friendliest Repeater in Town" but the 443.225 MHz machine has to be suffering a major case of envy of its 2 meter cousin. Every time your Editor tunes in, there is no activity to be heard.

Of course, your Editor is also guilty of leaving the sub-band turned off most of the time, because he can't listen to two conversations at once. Maybe the 440 DART isn't lost after all, it's just ready for the competition. The 2m DART has "Drive Time" and "Buddies and Pals." The 440 DART needs its own group, maybe something like "Drive Time II."

If your radios have 70 cm capability, but you don't use the 440 DART, think

about why not and mention it to any Club Officer at the next meeting. If it turns out that a lot of you DO use the machine, your Editor may look foolish, but so what. "Been there. Done that. Got the T-Shirt."

# Do you know where your TNC is?

- By Ron KB8PNS

Do you remember that local news broadcast question which asked "It's 11:00 pm, do you know where your children are?" Well, for the HPARC this question could be "It's 11:00 pm, do you know where your Buddy's TNC is?"

Did you ever want to leave a message for one of the Club members but did not know if they had a packet station. OK, you think they operate packet, but don't know their usual frequency or if they operate 24 hours. You would send them a message from your "Home" PBBS, but don't know their address.

Well, the time will come shortly that the answer to these hard questions will be at your finger tips; I'll just bet that you can't wait!

I will be compiling a directory of packet stations operated by the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club members. I will also be happy to include any other packet stations that will be of interest to us to use.

Information such as the percentage of Club members who operate packet, the number of 9600 bps stations, as well as a listing of stations on 6 m, 70 cm, and the like will be available for all to use.

For me to compile this information and eventually publish a directory will take the help of all of the members who operate packet. Please write down your information and give it to me at the next meeting or the Swap. Even better, log onto my Maildrop, KB8PNS-1 on 145.030 or send it in a message to KB8PNS@N8EQD.#SEMI.MI.

Please include the following:

Callsign, Name, TNC speed(s)
Operating hours, maildrop address
Home PBBS address
Features: WX, APRS, PBBS, etc.

Let's use our Editor as an example:

N8QMD, Jim, 1200 bps 24 hr, maildrop, N8QMD-3, 144.970 Home PBBS = N8EQD (144.970) Occasional APRS on 145.970

Thanks and I hope to soon have a listing of HPARC Packet information to hand out, or maybe even leave as a message available for all to read at my TNC.

### Calendar

December 13, 1995	HPARC general membership meeting and Annual Christmas Party. Come eat, drink and be merry
	with the "Buddies and Pals." Food consumed at this meeting is not fattening, because all of the festive in the
	atmosphere applies a special coating which prevents calories from attaching themselves to any human being.
December 31, 1995	Straight Key Night
January 10, 1996	Featured speaker will be Wayne K8TBH, presenting the ins and outs of QSLing.
February 14, 1996	How long has it been since you heard of Collins Radio? Floyd KF8AT will make a presentation of the radio equipment of this company.
March 13, 1996	Dave W8YZ will educate us on RF properties as they relate to transmission lines and antennas and give demonstrations
April 10, 1996	Marty KG8QT has a few ideas and is working to develop them.
May 8, 1996	Marty KG8QT is working to confirm this date with the guest speaker he wants.

Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club PO Box 368 Hazel Park MI 48030