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The President's Monthly QRM

Things are getting back to normal now on the home front and elections are this month. If you want to run for office, or know someone that you think would be good, let someone on the election committee know. It is always good to get new blood on the board. Dee N8UZE has gotten very busy at work and doing some traveling so she will not be running for secretary this year, so this leaves at least one opening that must be filled. Give it some thought; it may be that you will

The Zero Beat

The Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.qsl.net/w8hp>

May, 2004

DART: Moving Ahead

make a good board member. If nothing else you will find out how the club functions and have a say in it.

Besides elections we will have Mike, WD8S, Steve, WD9FTH and John, K8UP, our Field Day committee give a presentation on this year's Field Day activities. They have planned many changes to the old routines, making their presentation very important for the club. Make sure you are there to find out what the changes are. They are the most significant changes in how we handle Field Day since I have been in the club.

Lastly and definitely not the least is the preparations for the Club Banquet. There are still a few things up in the air and we will discuss them at the May meeting. The cost this year is \$20 per person due to moving the festivities to a fancier place. I hear that the food is excellent at the Gazebo so I am looking forward to it. Remember bring your wallet to get your ticket for the club banquet at the May meeting. Last meeting before the banquet. Any of the club officers will be more than happy to sell you a ticket. You must have your ticket with you to get into the Gazebo for dinner. Past years, a list was kept of the people buying tickets. No list is being kept this year, so no ticket no dinner.

See you at the meeting and bring a friend

Phil Ode, AA8KR, President

Meeting Minute, The Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club, April, 2004

Due to illness and hospitalization of our Secretary, Dee, N8UZE, there were no minutes submitted to the editor for inclusion in this month's issue. Check at the meeting for details and to get a copy of minutes, if desired.

Lots of news this month! Alex, KC8TGW, and John, AA8UU, spent most of their Saturday installing the new remote receive site up near Great Lakes Crossing. This is the same system that was at Tom's house on the East Side. By the time you read this, it'll have been operational for at least a week. Let us know how it sounds and the kind of coverage it has. Don, W8PDI, was into it up near Grange Hall Road on North I-75, so maybe we can finally keep in touch with everyone at Field Day this year.

We hope to get a different courtesy tone on it, so you'll know when you are into it. Right now you can hear the difference in the squelch tail, as the main site sounds cleaner. Give us some time, and we will try to clean up these little problems.

Even bigger news is in the works. We just received tentative approval to locate a remote receive down in Romulus, near I-275 and I-94. This is all due to the work of Mike, N8FI, who took some initiative. Mike noticed that there was a huge microwave tower on the plant property where he works, and started asking about it. Turns out the system is not currently being used, and Mike asked his plant manager if we could possibly locate a remote there.

I pulled together a packet of information for Mike to present to his plant manager, which consisted of a letter from Oakland County Emergency Management, a similar letter from Marty, N8MG in Macomb County, some articles about ham operators assisting during emergencies, and a simple cover letter.

Well, guess what? They've said "Yes"!!

We still have to work out some details, but Mike and I are still amazed. I share this story with you because we need your help to locate one more site

on the East Side. The DART Board cannot do it on our own. It takes people like Mike to get the ball rolling. What I need is for someone on the East Side to help us find a good location. This could be a police or fire station, a tall apartment building—anything in the area of Mt. Clemens, Shelby, Utica, St. Clair Shores, or Fraser. We aren't being too picky about sites. My thinking about it is this: Let's get something in place, and then work to improve it.

Some other good news: Willy, KC8FNQ, heard my call for assistance and suggestions on battery backup for the DART 2 meter, and donated a new battery specifically designed for backup use. Alex has the battery, and we are in the process of getting the charge controller we need for it. Backup power is our biggest priority right now; to get these remote sites, we sell the DART as a backup to the Oakland County system, which is what it is. Sure, the DART is a great place to catch up with friends and club members, but if we go down during a power outage, then we are not fulfilling our primary responsibility.

It's the generosity of the DART and HPARC members that make us stronger. Follow the lead of Mike and Willie—they've gone out of their way to help. Without your support and contributions—money and otherwise, we can't accomplish much. I'd like to thank all of you who use the DART and pay dues to keep us up and running. Let me know what we at the DART Board can do to make it work better for you!

Tony Gallucci, N8VR

HPARC Hams Needed to Volunteer for Public Service Events

Now that Spring is here, there are a huge number of opportunities for HPARC members to participate in Community Service events in the area.

There will be an additional sub net for northern Oakland County Siren Tests being run by George, K8GEO. Call George if you live in the areas of Auburn Hills, Rochester Hills, Rochester, Oakland Twp., or Addison Twp., or will be interested in checking sirens in those areas, please contact

George at 248-393-4030, or E-mail to K8GEO@arrl.net. George hopes to have enough volunteers available so that you will not have to volunteer your time each month, but rather on a rotating basis.

Additionally, you should make plans to help out in the following events:

- The Oak Apple Run (Saturday, June 5, over by Noon) in Royal Oak. Organizational meeting on Tuesday, May 1 at 6:30 PM (**note the new date!**) at the First United Methodist Church in Royal Oak, just North of Jimi's. Contact WD8S@comcast.net for information.
- American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure, (June 13) at Island Lake State Recreation Area (Brighton). Contact Jeff Albrecht, N8WR 248-642-3608
- MS 150 Bike Ride (July 17-18) Springfield Oaks County Park to Lansing and back. Contact Jeff, N8WR

Other HPARC Regular Events and Gatherings

Sunday: HPARC/DART 2 Meter net.

9:00 PM 146.64 (-) 100 Hz

Tuesday Medium Speed CW Net 8:00 PM 28.128 +/-QRM

Thursday Oakland County ARPSC Net 145.25 (-) 100 Hz

Friday Morning Breakfast at The Ram's Horn, 31253 Woodward, North of 13 Mile Rd. 7:30 AM

Saturday breakfast at Jimi's in Royal Oak, 714 S. Washington, 9:30 AM

Nightly except Sunday: the Rocking Chair Net 145.63 FM Simplex, 8:00 PM, Local time.

Nightly: SE Michigan Traffic Net on 145.33 (-) no PL beginning at 10:15 PM.

Net Control List 2003 Hazel Park HPARC/DART Sunday Evening Net

The following is a list of stations who have agreed to host the HPARC weekly net on the DART Repeater. As always, if you are unable to fulfill your duties as Net Control Operator, please contact Bill Ketel, N8QVS as soon as possible so that he might arrange a substitute.

May 9 N8QVS Bill #1848
May 16 KA8DMR Marsha #1849
May 23 AA8UU John #1850
May 30 K8UP John #1851
Jun. 06 AD8M Ken #1852
Jun. 13 K8KHZ Sean #1853
Jun. 20 N8QVS Bill_2 #1853
Jun. 27 KC8TWO Mark #1854

Could This be the Last Zero Beat You Receive???

Check your mailing label to see if you are about to have your membership expire! If the Membership expires, you will no longer be a voting member of the HPARC, and will not receive the newsletter. Additionally, I need to know if you are prepared to receive the Electronic edition of the paper. In an effort to lower printing and mailing costs, the newsletter will be E-mailed, **except for those members who have expressed to me and to Murray that you want to get it via Postal Mail, as you do not have E-mail.** E-mail your current E-mail address to N8WR@arrl.net ASAP, so you will continue to receive the information on HPARC and all its activities throughout the year.

If your membership is about to expire (or already has!), please renew in person with Murray, or send a renewal to the HPARC PO Box. **Dues are \$10 per person per year, or \$25 for the family membership, which covers 3 or more members living at the same address.**

Jeff Albrecht, N8WR

HPARC May Meeting Will have a Full Agenda

Be sure to attend the May Membership meeting of the HPARC. Though we won't have a guest speaker, there will be plenty of things taking place this month.

First off, we have elections for the 2004-05 Board of Directors. There is a vacancy for the office of Secretary, as well as the chance to run for any other position currently held by an incumbent member of the board.

Second, Mike, WD8S, Steve, WD9FTH and John, K8UP, will be discussing this year's Field Day arrangements. Our club will operate in the usual place at the Hazelwood property,

but there are large changes as to how we will operate. We need your full cooperation to make the event even better than it has been in the past, so now is the time to get involved!

This month's meeting is the last night before folks will be heading down to Dayton, so make sure that if you aren't going, you have given someone else a shopping list of things to pick up for you. I know that club officers will be down there selecting which Banquet prize I will win this year, too!

This is also your last chance to sign up to help with the Oak Apple Run, The ADA Tour de Cure and the MS 150, all of which take place in June and July. For the run, check with Mike, WD8S. For the bike rides, see me, N8WR.

As usual, the meeting will begin at 7:30, with a pre-gathering at 7 PM. We are back to our usual location at Webster Elementary, so make sure to show up at the correct building!

We will also be accepting Nominations for the 2004-05 HPARC Board of Directors. This is your chance to really step up and become a more active member of your club. Contact members of the Nominating Committee for further information. Due to business commitments, our Secretary, Dee Flint, will be unable to continue her duties on the board past this year, so the office is wide open to all interested parties. If you would like to volunteer for an important job, Board membership helps to direct the club, but requires only one extra night a month to help out. We need you!

CQ FIELD DAY!

Once again, Field Day is right around the corner. This year's event will take place on Saturday and Sunday, June 26-27. Our new Field Day Committee, consisting of WD8S, K8UP and WD9FTH would like your help in making this a successful and fun event for everybody. HPARC will plan to operate as a Class 2A station, with an additional GOT Station, and possibly a dedicated VHF station, if interest is sufficient. As has been the custom, we will operate from the Hazelwood Property near Holly, MI.

The key to a successful operation is to have all stations operating at all times, so Mike has asked that members

sign up for specific time blocks to operate. you can, of course, also operate when there is nobody specific signed up to operate one of the stations, but preplanning will make for a better event. If enough people are willing to commit to operating times, we might operate with additional transmitters.

Remember that June 30 marks the end of the current General Class Question Pool. Once again, HPARC will offer as a service to amateurs, a VE Test session. This year's testing will be done on Sunday morning, beginning at 11:00 AM. If you are interested in participating in the testing, either as a Volunteer Examiner (ARRL VEC Certification Required), or you want to take the tests that morning, please call Jeff Albrecht, N8WR at 248-642-3608, or E-mail N8WR@arrl.net.

Get Well Wishes to HPARC Members

The time period from mid-April to the present has been a rough one for the membership of our club, and we would like to pass along get well wishes to the following members:

Phil Ode, AA8KR, was injured in a motorcycle accident on the day of the April meeting. Phil is well on the road to recovery and is able to resume the role as President, though his bike was a total loss.

Zarth Austin, KC8SVP, was also involved in a hit-and-run motorcycle accident last month. Fortunately, Zarth was not injured, and police have caught up with the car that struck him from behind.

Harry Austin, KC8TEV, is at home currently and dealing with chemotherapy. All of our best wishes to Harry and wishes for a speedy recovery.

George Schutte, K8GEO, is back home after emergency removal of his Gall bladder two weeks ago.

Dee Flint, N8UZE, is recovering from pneumonia and secondary infections. We hope she will be well enough to attend the meeting this week.

Our most sincere wishes to all for speedy recoveries.

Congratulations to the HPARC 2004 General License Class!

The General Class, taught by Carl, K8BSG, Dee, N8UZE, and John, K8UP, was a huge success. At the conclusion of class, the HPARC VE team stepped in and administered License upgrade examinations to all present. There were four individuals who gained a full General license, and two who passed their code tests, as well as 9 who passed their General Class theory tests.

Congratulations to all of the folks in the class, as well as the excellent group of instructors who helped them attain their successes.

Be Sure to Get Your June Banquet Reservations

This year's HPARC Banquet will take place on Wednesday, June 9 at the Gazebo Restaurant. Tickets are \$20 per person, and should be reserved PRIOR to the event, as the Gazebo requires a tally of how many guests will be present several days before the event. If you would like to attend, pick up your tickets at the May meeting, or contact a board member, who will have tickets to sell.

It's important to remember to keep track of your ticket, as no meals will be served if you do not have a ticket.

There will be the usual celebrations of the installation of the new Board of Directors, the much-anticipated prize drawings and the award for HPARC Amateur of the year, so this is a big night and many feel it is a "must-attend" event. Reserve early so you won't be disappointed.

This Edition of the Zerro Beat was truncated and delayed due to a major league computer failure at my shack. I have reconstructed as much as possible. My apologies to all!

Jeff, N8WR