



Officers and Volunteers

- **President:** Phil Ode,
AA8KR@arrl.net 248-641-9723
- **1st Vice President:** Jim Poehlman,
K8ABZ, 248-398-0086
jepoehlman@wideopenwest.com
- **2nd Vice President:** Steve Gladstein,
N8FH, 248-737-9393
steve.gladstein@us.bosch.com
- **Secretary:** Willie Neal, KC8FNQ,
slcwillie1@ameritech.net 248-557-3475
- **Treasurer:** Richard Dzick,
N8MQU@arrl.net, 586-268-4671
- **Director:** John Fleming, K8UP,
248-542-9573 john@fleming-photo.com
- **Parliamentarian:** Bill Ketel.
N8QVS, wketel2@netzero.com,
248-544-2452
- **Contact VE:** Joe Kennedy,
N8OZ@arrl.net 586-977-7222
- **Editor:** Jeff Albrecht,
N8WR@arrl.net 248-642-3608
- **Swap Chair:** Sean Fleming
248-691-1130

The President's Monthly QRM

It's time for the annual Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club Swap. This Sunday, January 16, the doors at Hazel Park High School will open at 8:00 AM and the Swap will officially begin. Sean, K8KHZ, has been working hard on making this a good Swap. He has brought in some new vendors to entice the amateur radio community. There have been discussions about bringing

The Zero Beat

The Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club

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

November, 2004

in RC modeling, or something else, so that we may appeal to a larger audience. This is just in the talking stages and your input is requested by Sean and the board.

This, as well as all Swaps, supply the needed funding for all of our club activities, so the Swap is an important club event and all members should participate. You can do this by helping at the set up on Saturday, working at the doors for ticket sales on Sunday or helping at the tear down after the Swap, you could even help at all of the task and I am sure that no one would complain. If everyone pitches in and helps the task will be light for all, if only a few volunteer they have to work hard to support your club.

Over the last few years there has been a great deal of QRM about Ham radio dying as a means of emergency communications. But time and time again this has proven to be false. During the blackout, amateur radio was used and more recently after the tsunami, Ham radio was there when it was needed.

There are many stories coming in from the Far East about ham radios being the only means of communication immediately after the storm. For the first 20 hours after the tsunami, the only communication available on one of the islands was battery powered CW. There was so much health and welfare traffic that the hams stopped taking in coming traffic because there were not enough hams to handle it. Ham stations were being set up in governor's offices, to get reliable communication, and the list goes on. You have to remember when the primary power grid goes down and there are no cell phones, no Internet no satellite phones, the only thing left is battery-powered radios (most can be

run from batteries) and the people that know how to use them. So take pride in your hobby (hobby?). See you at the meeting and bring a friend.

Phil Ode, AA8KR, President

Meeting Minutes, The Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club, December, 2004

The December meeting was the club's annual Christmas/holiday party, and as such there were no minutes to report. Club members did, however, make contributions to the Handi-Hams charitable foundation. Please check with our treasurer, Richard, N8MQU., for totals on our club's contributions.

HPARC Swap is this Sunday, January 16-- Club Members Needed to Pitch in!

Sunday marks our 39th annual HPARC Swap and Shop. This is the main source of income for our club, and is critically important to us so that we may keep up all of our activities without raising the cost of dues to the general membership.

For the past several months, I have been working with our new Swap Chair, Sean Fleming, K8KHZ, who has been doing an excellent job organizing the event. Sean informs me that we are nearly sold out on tables, and if the weather is decent this weekend, this should be a very good event for the vendors, the guests and our club in general. The critical requirement at this late date is to have sufficient club members there to make sure all the final work gets done! Without everyone's help this weekend, the swap will not succeed. Please consider volunteering for one of the following positions:

- **Set Up:** We will have our usual Saturday Morning breakfast at Jimi's Restaurant in Royal Oak, and then everyone who wants to help set up tables will proceed

over to Hazel Park High School to set up the tables.

- Door/Ticket Sales: A critical part of our success, we need two people at each door (there are 4 entrances to the school that we will be using) from before 6 AM Sunday, until we close the doors a little after noon. If you want to help, consider working in a team with a buddy on this one. Contact Ralph Greenberg, K8CAR, to sign up for this. 248-855-6615
- Tear down-: After we have finished the swap on Sunday, we will need several folks to help with removing all the tables and taking them over to the door where the truck from the table rental company will be. Usually about a 2-hour job, the more folks who help out, the quicker it will go!

Talk-in Station: We will need a few folks to man a 2-meter radio for shifts of 1-2 hours, and act as traffic information directors for folks coming to the swap. The station will be run on the DART 2 meter machine, and the club will provide all the equipment. (Thanks, N8TMQ!) All we need is your golden voice!

HPARC Hams Needed to Volunteer for Public Service Events

Now that Spring will soon be 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. Tests begin in March

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

- The Oak Apple Run (June) in Royal Oak. Contact WD8S@comcast.net for information.
- March of Dimes Walk, Troy : Controlled this year by Jim Poehلمان, K8ABZ.
- MS Walk, Birmingham (May) Hams needed in Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and Beverly Hills. Contact Phil, AA8KR.
- American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure, (June) at Island Lake State Recreation Area (Brighton). Contact Jeff Albrecht, N8WR 248-642-3608

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 Avenue, 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 2005 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.

Jan. 16 AA8KR Phil 1884

Jan. 23 K8UP John 1885

Jan. 30 N8QVS Bill 1886

Feb. 06 KC8TWO Marc 1887

Feb. 13 K8KHZ 1888

Feb. 20 KA8DMR Marsha 1889

Feb. 27 KC8FNQ Willie 1890

HPARC January Meeting Will Cover Handi Hams and Swap

Be sure to attend the January 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 the final plans for Sunday's Swap. Make sure to be there so you can sign up for your volunteer assignment to make the event run smoothly.

Additionally, Richard, N8MQU., will present the video on Hand-Hams and what they do to help people with disabilities become active Amateur Radio Operators.

Additionally, it is time to be planning ahead for other activities coming up this year. Steve, N8FH, will discuss the club's annual pilgrimage to Dayton in May, and we will be seeking Event Chairs for the June Banquet, Field Day, and a Nominating Committee for the slate of officers for next year's Board of Directors. Be sure to attend!

So, You Want to Erect an Antenna Tower?

Typically, you will have to make an application for a variance to your local Zoning Board of Appeals ("ZBA") and/or your City, Village or Township governing body. Are you prepared to justify your request?

Suppose the ZBA knows of your VHF and UHF radios and, through the use of repeaters, you can communicate on Amateur Radio frequencies all over metropolitan Detroit and adjoining suburbs. Why do you need HF capabilities? You can reply, in part, with these facts. There exists an organization called the Hurricane Watch Net ("HWN") staffed by pre-qualified Amateur Radio Operators scattered across the United States and Canada that begins to function when there is a hurricane threat to land in areas adjoining the Atlantic Ocean, and as needed in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. This closed net operates on 14.325 MHz in the 20 meter band and reports to Amateur Radio Station WX4NHC located in the National Hurricane Center ("NHC") in Miami, Florida. Because of skip and

propagation patterns, states in and adjoining the coastal areas cannot communicate by HF with the NHC in Miami. Consequently, by the use of somewhat distant HWN Net Control Operators ("NCOs"), communications can be maintained by Amateur Radio Operators in the impacted (or to be impacted) areas and the NHC in Miami.

The HWN identifies and collects a list of Amateur Radio Operators in the path of the hurricane who may be available throughout the event and who will observe and measure local weather information that will be conveyed by the HWN to forecasters in the NHC in Miami. As is similar to our own SKYWARN Nets, the NHC relies heavily on trained spotters on the ground for wind speed, direction, wind gusts, barometric pressure, flooding from storm surge, etc., to assist them in getting a better picture of the storm. This information is also utilized by the NHC to make Storm Advisories on a regular basis. These advisories are then relayed back to Amateur Radio Operators the affected areas by the HWN.

Here in Oakland County, we have two HWN NCOs. Floyd, W8RO, has a 60' tower topped by a Mosley TA-33, 3 element tri-band yagi. Just a few miles away, we have a second, newly appointed, HWN NCO utilizing a 70' crank-up tower. As you know, the 20 meter band begins to open about 7 AM and closes in the evening anywhere from 9 to 11 PM. As the propagation shifts westerly, more NCOs are needed in the Mid-West and the West Coast.

While this short article does not outline all the reasons for the erection of a 60' or 70' HF antenna tower, it certainly demonstrates emergency functioning capabilities of Amateur Radio in natural disasters or other possible terrorist activities. The Amateur Radio community was recently successful in supporting a year or two long struggle to have the City of Troy amend their ordinances to permit the erection of 70' tall antenna towers. Contact Murray, KE8UM, of the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club for details. His e-mail address is

ke8um@arrl.net. A similar effort is presently underway in Clinton Township, Macomb County, by David Cunningham, KC8IAQ, and his wife Mary, KC8IAP, of the Utica Shelby Emergency Communications Association. They will also need our support! Remember, do your homework before you make application for a permit or variance. 73 de K8GEO
George Schutte, K8GEO

SO... Who are These "Handi-Hams"??

In this issue, you have seen several mentions of the Charity we supported at the Christmas party last month: Courage Handi-Hams. You may not know a great deal about them, and are wondering who they are and what they do. Here is a brief summary courtesy of the organization:

The Courage HANDI-HAM System was "born" in Rochester, Minnesota in 1967; the idea of Ned Carman, W0ZSW. Ned worked for a clinic, and, in the course of his work, would visit people with severe physical disabilities. As he spoke with his clients, who often had few opportunities to leave their homes, he realized that Amateur Radio would be the perfect hobby for them. Here was a hobby that could open a window to the world! A person with the most severe disabilities could stand as an equal with fellow hams in the world of Amateur Radio!

Ned enlisted the help of a group of local nuns, the Sisters of St. Francis, on April 30, 1967. Although their first action was as weather watchers during a thunderstorm that passed through Rochester that day, the Sisters were his new project, and several received their licenses. Among them was Sister Alverna O'Laughlin, WA0SGJ, the former Educational Coordinator for the HANDI-HAM System, now retired. The first HANDI-HAM was Edna (Eddy) Thorson, N0YL, who took her General Class license exam in December, 1967. Very soon the Rochester Amateur Radio Club, and a little later the PICONET of South Eastern Minnesota took up the torch of service that Ned had lighted. Word

of the HANDI-HAM System spread rapidly throughout southern Minnesota and northern Iowa.

By 1969 it was very evident that the expansion of HANDI-HAM services could not continue without some rather substantial financial support. This support came from the non-profit Minnesota Society for Crippled Children and Adults (whose name would later change to "Courage Center"). The Society granted full affiliate status to the fledgling System and helped with money and equipment. Word of the HANDIHAM System spread throughout the Upper Midwest, then across the country, and around the world. It became impossible to continue the work of the System as a volunteer organization... Something had to be done, or HANDI-HAMS would be a victim of its own success. The answer emerged when Courage Center agreed to accept the System as a program, and in 1975 the Minnesota HANDI-HAM System merged with Courage Center to become a full service, providing help wherever there was a need. The Courage HANDI-HAM System, now a fully-integrated service of Courage Center, is able to call on the resources of its parent organization, from accounting and counseling to rehabilitation medicine and physical therapy, in order to better serve its students and members.

HANDI-HAM stations are now in operation at Camp Joan Mier; Malibu, CA; Courage St. Croix, Stillwater; MN; Camp Courage, Maple Lake, MN; Courage North, Lake George, MN; and at Courage Center in Golden Valley, MN. Radio Camp sessions and other HANDI-HAM services serve members from everywhere in the United States and around the world. Members learn radio, electronic theory, and computing, but they also learn that they can accomplish what they set out to do!

Ned Carman is a silent key, but the Courage HANDI-HAM System's headquarters station bears his call sign, W0ZSW, and an organization of volunteers and paid staff carries on his good work of sharing Amateur Radio

with people who have physical disabilities.

The Courage HANDI-HAM System (c)2000

3915 Golden Valley Road

Golden Valley, MN 55422

Donations and Membership Line:

1-866-426-3442 Toll-Free

E-Mail Us at: handiham@mtn.org

HPARC in HS-Land

I am sure everyone here is familiar with the terrible destruction caused by the earthquake and tsunami in the Indian Ocean. More than 100,000 have lost their lives, and countless more are digging out from the aftereffects of the disaster. Amateur radio operators were among the first in the area to report on various problems (as usual!) And provided a vital link to areas cut off from the rest of the world.

Did you know that HPARC member Don Craft, AB8RH, is currently living in Thailand? He lives near Bangkok, so was not in the affected west coast area of the country, but many folks have expressed concern as

to his well being and have asked for updates on how things are going over there.

Don's daughter, Naomi, KE4WKR, has informed me that she has asked Don to keep us filled in on what is happening in the area, so as Don sends out information, I will be happy to pass it on to the club. Stay tuned for details!

Jeff Albrecht, N8WR

Volunteer Editor Needed

As you can see, I have not been able yet to hand over publication of the *Zero Beat* to another willing volunteer. I need to find a volunteer willing to take over this duty and produce a club newsletter for our members. In addition to the actual assembly of the newsletter, the only other obligation is to attend the monthly Board of Directors meetings prior to HPARC Club Meetings each month.

If you would like to help out, please speak to Phil Ode at the meeting

on Wednesday, or contact me directly. Thanks and 73,

Jeff

The Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 368

Hazel Park, MI 48030

Please visit our web site: <http://www.qsl.net/w8hp>

Check Mailing Label--is your membership about to expire??

Club Meeting- Wednesday, January 12, 7:30 PM

Swap: Sunday, January 16, 6 AM- 2 PM

FIRST CLASS MAIL--Dated Material