



ZERO BEAT

JANUARY 2024

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President's QRM

Welcome to 2024! We are now one year closer to the theoretical solar maximum, and while Cycle 25 has had its ups and downs so far – like any other, to be honest – I have noticed that propagation seems to be **better** across the board on the HF bands. Of course, 10 meters has been hopping almost every day, and the ARRL 10 Meter Contest proved to be quite enjoyable as a result.

However, it's not all about the higher HF allocations, especially near the Winter Solstice. I recently dug out my loaded vertical antenna that I usually use for Parks on the Air and other portable operations to set up on 80 meters for a couple of nights, and in the evenings – typically 2-4 hours after local sunset – I could easily be heard and work stations across the US, even getting into the Canadian Rockies. With a better vertical antenna, I'd imagine that I could work Europe on a nighttime path on 80 meters if the conditions and time were right.

As for club activities: We saw our annual Field Day move to a new location – Camp Agawam in Orion Township – that we will be using again in the coming year. We also started a series of educational events for new and prospective Amateur Radio operators held at Leonard AD8FK's house, which have already helped people see how easy it is to make dipole antennas and do other basic tasks to get on the air. We are looking to do more fun, in-person activities in the new year. Any ideas? Send them our way!

By the way, I must apologize for not being at the Holiday Party. It's the first one I've missed since they've been at the library, but I came down with the seasonal "ick", and that is something I definitely do NOT want to share with anyone. I heard it was a fun time, though!

In closing, I hope that this new year brings you all prosperity, health, happiness, and good signal propagation.

Have fun with Amateur Radio!

Thanks! 73,

Mike Phipps, K8WU

Activities (Continued)

Amateur Radio Public Service Corps (ARPS)C Thursday Night 2 meter Phone Net

Thursdays at 8:00PM on the W8OAK repeater, 146.90 MHz Offset -0.6 MHz PL 100 <http://www.arpssc.com>

Hospital Radio Check

Last Thursday of the month at 7:30PM on the W8OAK repeater, 146.90 MHz Offset -0.6 MHz PL 100 <http://www.arpssc.com>

Repeater Crawl

Fridays at 7:00PM, <https://mi-arpssc.org/net/wcrc/>

HPARC Buddy Breakfast Socializing

Saturdays at 8:15AMish,Cozy Cabin Diner, 2129 E. 12 Mile Rd (near Dequindre), Warren, MI

Recent attendance: about a dozen helpful HAMs, somebody will have a good idea for you!

Oakland County ARPS)C Siren Testing

First Saturday of the month, March through November, at 1:00PM on the KE8HR repeater, 146.760 MHz, Offset -0.6 MHz PL 100. Contact Marsha, N8FE, at n8fe@arrl.net, to be assigned a siren to test.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

You may think that your station is properly grounded, shielded and bonded only to find out the light in your aquarium is interfering with your 2 m transmissions. Best regards, A Veteran HAM

Officers

- President Mike K8WU qrz@k8wu.me
- 1st. VP Joe WB8ADX joeraznik@gmail.com
- 2nd. VP Jim W8DPM tenaciousjd@gmail.com
- Secretary Reuven KB3EHW rgevaryahu@gmail.com
- Treasurer Bob N8REL rlau6@aol.com
- Parliamentarian Hugh KE8BED photoink77@hotmail.com
- Director Len AD8FK len1perkins@yahoo.com

Committee Chairs

- Holiday Pot Luck 12/?/24 John W8TOY
- Picnic-(Date?) Jim W8DPM
- Swap-(Date?) John KD8NYF
- Field Day 6/22/2024 John AA8UU
- Repeaters, W8HP/W8JXU Joe WB8ADX
- Education & Exams Jerry W9NPI, Bob N8REL
- Sunday 2m Net Bob N8REL
- Media Hugh KE8BE

Volunteers

W8JXU Trustee	Bill N8QVS
Mentoring	Leonard AD8FK
Contesting Mentor	Mike WD8S, Gerry K8GT
STEM/STEAM	Joe WB8ADX
Siren Check Ldr	Marsha N8FE
LoTW Mgr (Log)	Murray KE8UM
Cook	Bill N8QVS
Lark in the Park	John AA8UU
Net Control Op	Len AD8FK
	John W8TOY
	Mike K8WU
	Bob N8REL
Media Team	Hugh KE8BED
	John AA8UU
	Mike K8WU
	John W8TOY
Public Info (PIO)	Joe WB8ADX
Webmaster	Reuven KB3EHW
Facebook Admin	Aaron W8VIP
	Reuven KB3EHW
Zero Beat Editor	Donald KD8NYD

Health and Welfare

Please check on AA8ROK

HS0ZBG Don Craft has come home from Thailand and is waiting for your call on 2m. His Extra call was AB8RH. Before that he was KB8MVS.

Births? Birthdays? Memberships? Licenses Earned? Awards? Certificates? Anniversaries? Equipment Investments?

Editor's Note:

Errata: November general meeting was Nov 8th not Nov 15th

Propagation - Sunspot Predictions

A nice graph and interesting links:

<https://www.weather.gov/news/102523-solar-cycle-25-update>

<https://www.space.com/solar-maximum-expected-2024-new-predictions-suggest>

<https://skyandtelescope.org/astronomy-news/new-forecast-resets-solar-cycle-expectations/>

Elmer?

Ionosphere: Why is it F1 and F2 rather than F and G?

W8HP

Remember to plug in your antenna before claiming the repeater is broken.

W8JXU

Remember to use the lowest possible transmitting power before claiming the repeater is broken. We have heard signals improve when the transmitting power was cut in half.

Contact Us

Submissions: jonesdlus2@yahoo.com



Mission

Service Through Education

<https://hparc.org/>