



The Zero Beat

THIS MEETING

October 11, 2006
7:30 P.M.
(socializing begins at 7)
Hoover Elementary
23720 Hoover Ave.
Hazel Park

CONTENTS

A-1 Operators	6
Around Town	7
Contest Corner	5
CQ DX	4
Lee W8HL Intro	4
Meet Bernie W3UR	3
Minutes	3
Nets	2
Nov. Sweepstakes	6
Officers/ Volunteers	2
Presidents QRM	1
Usenet	5
Voice of America	6

MAKING THE CONNECTION

The October presentation will be none other than our own Alex K8AJB. Alex has been very active helping keep the repeater on the air. His volunteer work is greatly appreciated.

You may recall that there was an article in the March, 2006 issue of the Zero Beat about installing PL-259's. However, at this month's meeting Alex will improve upon that topic by providing a LIVE demonstration on how to install PL-259 and BNC connectors.

PRESIDENT'S MONTHLY QRM

A key part of our hobby is the fact that the Amateur Radio Operator is a volunteer. We do not accept payment for the services we provide, but the job we do are, nonetheless, of critical importance. The works we perform for free are invaluable to our communities and to our nation.

Think about it: can't we say the exact same thing about what we do for our radio clubs? The club is an organization of volunteers, after all. None of us is getting a stipend or a salary for what we do to advance the hobby and to advance the goals of our club. But that doesn't mean that our work is without value, does it? Without somebody being willing to step up and fill a position that has work waiting to be done, the job never gets done, and somebody gets short-changed. Instead of a performing a service, our inactions lead to doing a disservice for somebody!

So... where is all this going? I think you might already know. In order for the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club to succeed as an organization, the club depends on members who are willing to perform some small, yet important, task in service to our group. It

could be chairing a committee. Maybe it's taking care of the coffee and cold drinks for the meetings. What about becoming a Volunteer Examiner, or teaching a license class? All of these are key positions that depend on volunteers inside the club to step up and offer some assistance. Most of the jobs do not require a huge time investment, but each job is critical. Do you think you might have what it takes to help your fellow club member? As I mentioned at September's meeting, we need volunteers for the following activities:

- Coffee and drinks
- Assisting with Swap Organization
- Developing a new Technician License class.

Fortunately, we have volunteers in most key areas: we have a good, strong board of officers; our treasury is in capable hands; Carl and Dee have stepped up to run our testing program; Sean is creating a new and improved website; and Marsha is doing a great job with the Zero Beat. But we still need help in a few areas, if you might be able to pitch in and offer a hand.

(Continued on page 2)

OFFICERS &
VOLUNTEERS

- **President:** Jeff Albrecht
248-642-3608
N8WR@arrl.net
- **1st VP:** Jim Poehlman
K8ABZ@arrl.net
248-398-0086
- **2nd VP & VE:** Carl Flint
K8BSG@arrl.net
248-765-3098
- **Secretary:** Willie Neal
KC8FNQ 248-557-3475
slcwilliw@ameritech.net
- **Treasurer:** Lee Patton
w8hl@arrl.net
248-549-7262
- **Director:** John Fleming
K8UP 248-542-9573
john@fleming-photo.com
- **Parliamentarian:** Bill
Ketel N8QVS
wkotel2@netzero.com
- **Newsletter:** Marsha
Fleming 248-542-9573
KA8DMR@arrl.net
- **Classes:** John Teagardin
AA8UU@arrl.net
248-547-2539
- **Swap:** Sean Fleming
K8KHZ@yahoo.com
248-632-3062
- **Webmaster:** Sean
Fleming 248-632-3062
K8KHZ@yahoo.com
- **Technical Coordinator:**
Murray Scott
KE8UM@arrl.net
- **Field Day:**
- **Public Information:**
Gary Sklar K8IKW
k8ikw@aol.com
- **Banquet:**

NETS

Oakland County Amateur Radio Public Service Corp (ARPSC)

Every Thursday @ 8 pm on 146.900 MHz/100pl. Hospital Radio Net on last Thursday of each month during the net. (W8OAK-3 will run packet on 145.050 MHz for those wanting to practice and test their equipment) <http://www.qsl.net/w8oak>

Sunday Night 2-meter Phone Net

Every Sunday at 9:00 PM local time, (146.64 (-), catch up on club news and information, and just to keep in touch. All amateurs are welcome to check in.

NTS Traffic Nets

the Southeast Michigan National Traffic System (NTS) net. Normally held every night at 10:15 PM local time on 145.33. Net manager is Diane, W18K.

Rocking Chair Net

You don't have to be confined to a rocking chair to check in! A friendly group meets on 145.630 MHz simplex (FM phone) at 8:00 PM local time, weekdays + some Saturdays. Net control is usually Bill, N8QVS, or Bill, KB8NIH, both of whom are located in Royal Oak.

Wolverine Net

The 75 Meter Wolverine Net meets on 3935 KHz (LSB phone) daily at 7:00 PM local time with pre-net starting at about 6:30 PM. The nets start a half hour earlier in winter. You can get details from Joe, K8JRE joecuchetti@comcast.net or Ed, W8EDE ed@ellisgen.com.

HPARC medium speed CW net

Every Tuesday night at 8:00 PM on 28.128 MHz. Al, N8WYO, runs the net and will match your speed. This is a net for folks who have mastered the 5 wpm, and want to move up to faster speeds, or if you're a little rusty.

Al calls CQHP at 8 PM sharp!

QRM CONT.

(Continued from page 1)

The entire club will appreciate your efforts and it really feels great to step up and handle a job that needs doing.

One other thing we can all do is to try and bring someone new to each meeting. If you can show someone else what an interesting and fun hobby we all share, chances are you will get this person interested in radio, and thus in the club. We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

See you there!
Jeff, N8WR

GINNY SAFE

Last month we had an article asking where Ginny was. We found her safe and sound in Murray KE8UM's garage. Seems that she is back home at Bill N8QVS' house and no worse for the wear. Welcome home Ginny.

NEW EXTRA

Congratulations to Gerald KB8VMF for passing the Amateur Extra exam. His new Vanity callsign is KA8D.

DEE'S QSL

Dee gave a great list of QSL links at the last meeting. Here is the list for reference.
<http://www.qrz.com> (Domestic & foreign)
<http://www.eham.net>
<http://www.hamcall.net/call> (foreign hams)
<http://ac6v.com/callbooks.htm>
(extensive radio info besides QSL)
<http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>
(excellent for both past and future DXpedition information)
Also try entering the callsign into Google.

MINUTES

Wednesday September, 20th 2006

1. The meeting was started by president Jeff N8WR at 19:36 EST. All officers were present except the secretary, Willie KC8FNQ.
2. Announcement by Jim K8ABZ: All members will annually fill out the membership form. This is a record of your membership. The Membership fee is \$15.00. The roster will be sent via e-mail in .PDF format. You will need adobe reader to read the roster and the zero beat.
3. Jeff N8WR thanked the past presidents.
4. W8HL Lee gave treasurer report.
5. Jeff N8WR thanked KA8DMR and K8KHZ for voluntary membership.
6. Website- explained what is going on with the site. It is at www.hparc.org forwarded to my personal site for now until it is moved at a later date.
7. There will be no fall technician classes. We are looking for instructors for a winter technician class.
8. The December meeting will be on the 20th.
9. The swap dates are the 20th/ 21st of January 2007
10. VE exams will be at the Oak Park Community Center. There is one the 1st Tue of October and again on the 1st Tuesday in December.
11. K8UP announcement: Thanks to all of the volunteers for siren test help. There are two more months left for siren tests.
12. K8ABZ Announcement : make sure you update your e-mail address with him so you can receive the zero beat and roster. Some people have bounced addresses.
13. K8IKW Announcements: W8OAK Repeater 146.900Mhz now. FEMA Classes on Sat Oct. 14th IS-22 and Nov 14th IS-200 Sign up with Loretta 248-858-5300. Oct 1st Diabetes Run. Kalamazoo Swap Oct 8th. Bloomfield Police Dept Oct 8th.
14. Space station will be on 145.530 Simplex.
15. 8:46PM EST Moment of silence observed for Richard N8MQU.
16. Presentation by N8UZE, "The art of QSLing" Copies of program can be obtained by asking Dee, N8UZE.
17. ARRL membership drawing winner was K8CFY.
Sean Fleming K8KHZ, Interim Secretary

MEET BERNIE W3UR

You are invited to attend the SEMDXA Club (South East Michigan DX Association) meeting on Friday October 13, 2006. The guest speaker will be Bernie McClenny, W3UR who will be putting on a presentation of the latest VU4 DXpedition which I am sure you will not want to miss.

If you are in the area and wish to attend, the meeting starts at 7:30 and is located at:

Elk's Lodge
1451 East Big Beaver Rd.
Troy, Michigan

It is on the north side of Big Beaver between John R and Rochester Rd. Click here for a map.

http://maps.yahoo.com/maps_result?addr=1451+East+Big+Beaver+Rd.&csz=troy%2C+mi&country=us&new=1&name=&qty=

Dinner is served prior to the meeting between 6:00 and 7:30 with a nice menu to order from.

You need not be a member although you would not be turned away. So don't let Friday the 13th scare you away. Bring a friend and drop by and say hello.

For more info about the club go to www.semdxa.org

NEW HARMONICS

Joshua Craft, KD8DVU, and his wife just had their third harmonic, Ashley Nicole Craft. on September 11, 2006. Mom. Dad and child are doing just fine. This harmonic is also niece of Naomi Ishioka, KE4WKR and Pete Ishioka KC8WWE as well as a "grand-harmonic daughter" for me, Don, AB8RH.

We got the news via Internet and are in Bangkok presently. And we have pictures to show all our friends--just ask! <Smile>.

Don Craft
AB8RH and HSOZBG
Don and Gail Craft
PO. Box 1 Sawang Dandin
Sakolnakhon 47110 Thailand
011-66-42-721-738
doncraft@comcast.net

C Q NOT SO DX. . .

Are you a Technician or General who spends all of your time on 2 meters or 440 and thinking why should I upgrade if I don't even own a HF radio yet. Well, don't let that stop you from upgrading. Take it from an old ham (26 years in ham radio). I love VHF. I am on VHF-mobile at least 5 days a week. Recently there was some discussion on 2 meters about why upgrade if you cannot afford the equipment. I would like to discuss that here.

If you are in the study mode, then go with the flow. Think of your brain as a sun spot cycle... if it's a good one, then you have to take advantage of it. Otherwise, you'll miss all the good DX (or in this case, the opportunity to upgrade when you're most receptive to taking the test).

I heard someone on the radio the other day talking about not upgrading because they do not have any HF gear. First off, let me say, please do not let that keep you from upgrading. There are many opportunities for getting on HF other than having your own radio in a spare room or basement. There is always Field Day—as well as friends and family that want to share their love of ham radio and help each other enjoy the it.

Although most of us have HF rigs in our own shacks that is not always possible. And some people with General and above license cannot have HF radios set up due to one reason or another. But ask them if regret upgrading. The answer is a resounding, "NO". They want that license ready and waiting for that one day when just the right DX station comes on the air calling CQ DX...

Marsha KA8DMR

SWAP DATE SET

The date is set for the HPARC has been confirmed. Set your Calendar for **JAN 21st, 2007** for the HPARC SWAP 'N SHOP. Contact Sean K8KHZ if you can volunteer to help with the Swap. He can use people who can pass out flyers and also contact vendors. Also we want people to help sell tickets. If you know anyone who might want to rent a table or buy tickets have them contact Sean or any Board member (see page 2 for contact information). Sean can be contacted either via email at k8khz@yahoo.com or phone 248-632-3062.

MEET MR. \$\$

Dear Friends, may I introduce to you—Lee W8HL our Club Treasurer [in his own words]:

As a youngster I was always interested in radio, but didn't know anyone who had anything other than AM radio. In 1980's I had a neighbor who was a ham and got me interested in getting my license. In 1989 I finally got serious about getting a license and bought a couple of tapes and a study guide. Took the test in October 1989, test got lost at the VEC and it took a call to the FCC for them to find it. In Feb 1990 I got my first call (N8LTM).

While serving in the US Navy (1960-1964) I attended Electronics A school (1961-1962) which was 28 weeks of 8 + hours of nothing, but math and electronics. I then went to Submarine school in Groton CT (1962) and then on to the USS Trigger (SS-564), (1962-1964) which was stationed in Charleston, S.C. The only trouble I had in upgrading, of course, was with the code, which took about 12 months of 15 minutes in the morning and 15 minutes at night of copying code. So in October of 1990 I received my Extra class license.

In 1996 when the vanity call program started, I applied for W8HL and got it. The H is for Harry my first name and the L is for LEE, which I use all the time. (Dad's name was Harry, not good having two Harry's in the same house.) CW never did come easy for me, so until late 2005 when on HF, I worked SSB only.

In December of 2005, I finally got my first taste of the Digital modes. Just love working PSK-31 and that is where you will find me, except during a contest or when 10 meters is open. I collect 10-10 numbers (over 1300) and am a paper chaser, with over 50 active chapters.

In February 2006 during the XE RTTY contest I got my first taste of RTTY, always heard about it but, had never tried it.

I have two grown children one each and three grandsons. Can't get them interested in the hobby, but for the youngest 6 yrs. there might still be some hope!

Presently I am using a TEN-TEC Orion as my base station radio. A Hy-Gain TH-7DX for 10-15-20 and an inverted-V for 40, 80 and 160.

73,
Lee W8HL

USENET NOT DEAD

Some of the younger generation may think that they invented the internet, but those of us who are older and wiser know better. In fact, I remember when I first got "online" back in 1980. Granted that was not the very beginning but it was 26 years ago. My first PC was a Vic20 and I was using a tape drive and typing a word processor program from a magazine article written in Basic line by line. That is when I learned about Usenet.

You may ask, "What is Usenet?" The very brief description of what Usenet is - a set of "newsgroups" with posts, messages, articles, yes even files, shared among people over the internet with or without moderators. These are often thought as the predecessors of Yahoo, AOL, and Google, etc. Groups. For a complete explanation read <http://www.faqs.org/faqs/usenet/what-is/part1/>

Well, believe it or not Usenet is alive and kicking. Yes, you can still use your favorite download tool to get newsgroup. I use Outlook Express Newsreader for some. I recently discovered Google Usenet has a mailing list feature that I can have the new messages sent to my Outlook. That works out really nice. I also go to Google to read the Usenet messages online for those that I do not want to subscribe to.

One word of warning. These are not moderated groups. You will see foul language. You will see uncouth behavior. This is the internet and not ham radio. But even me who do not think them appropriate will skim the bad messages so that I can glean the good information. I have no problem skipping 3 messages to get 1 good one.

To check out Usenet newsgroups on Google go to Alt.ham-radio

<http://groups.google.com/groups/dir?sel=33570237>

Rec.amateur-radio

<http://groups.google.com/groups/dir?sel=33609768>

You can get a comprehensive list of newsgroups, reflectors, mailing lists and other sources at

<http://www.ac6v.com/newsgroups.htm>

(When I clicked the links, it will opened Outlook Express and started the newsreader. Since I was already "online" it automatically brought in the message headers)

I found a free newsreader online at <http://news-reader.org/> or you can sign up for giganews at www.giganews.com (I get it free with my ISP) KA8DMR

FLU SHOT FAIR

Oakland County Health Department is once again offering a FLU SHOT FAIR on October 21,2006 from 9:00AM to 2 PM at seven sites in Oakland County and has asked the County ARPSC to provide emergency backup amateur radio operators at all 7 locations for the day.

Volunteers are needed at :

Hazel Park High School

Holly High School

Lake Orion High School

Rochester Hill Fire Department Drive-Thru Clinic*

Southfield Pavilion

South Lyon High School

Summit Place Mall

* this location only for disabled citizens who have handi-cap tag or hang up in their car.

To register for assisting for this event as radio op, please call Loretta at EOC at 248-858-5300 or email Larry KB8POD at his email at kb8pod@arri.net

CONTEST CORNER

Welcome to Contest Corner. The fall line-up of contests is as follows:

October 28-20 CQWW DX/SSB **

November 4-6 ARRL November Sweepstakes CW

November 18-19 ARRL Nov. Sweepstakes Phone **

November 25-26 CQWW DX/CW

December 1-3 ARRL 160M Contest

December 9-10 ARRL 10 Meter contest

Contesting University at Dayton 2007

If you are new to contesting then here is just what you need. Planned tentatively for Thursday May 17, 2007 from 8:30am to 5:30pm at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Dayton, Ohio. This is the day before the Dayton Ham-vention officially opens. Don't miss this rare opportunity to gain knowledge that may take you years of practice, trial and error or lost time to learn otherwise. Get the edge to improve your scores and put your station in the winners circle today!

Go to <http://www.contestuniversity.com/> to find out the specifics.

73's John K8UP

A - 1 OPERATORS

The ARRL has a special award called A-1 Operator to honor the best in Amateur Radio. Membership comes after nomination by two Club members who find the nominee qualified to be a member of this elite group. Nominations should be based on the following:

General considerations. Transmissions stable, well filtered, and occupying the minimum required bandwidth. On voice, clarity of speech, brevity, uses appropriate words and good grammar. On digital modes, clean tones and appropriate operating-frequency selection. On CW, proper character formation and spacing with appropriate speeds (high-speed ability is not a consideration).

Procedure. Always listens before transmitting. Appropriately short CQs, avoidance of unnecessary repetition, use of proper procedures and abbreviations recommended by ARRL, avoidance of common inanities in making contacts. When operating a message forwarding system, make sure that traffic is routed to its destination.

Judgment and courtesy. Courteous, and considerate of the other operator's point of view. Takes every opportunity to assist others, especially beginners. Patient and helpful at all times, and never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

Copying ability. This applies to all modes, for there is a knack to passing information through such difficulties as interference from other stations (QRM), atmospheric noises (QRN), fading (QSB), etc.

How to Nominate

Use the roster at <http://www.arrrl.org/awards/a1-op/roster/> to see if someone is already a member, or to find a second for your nominations. Send those nominations to: ARRL Awards Desk, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111. If you're on e-mail send them to: a1ops.nom@arrrl.org.

Send your name and callsign plus the callsigns of your nominees. If you know their names and addresses, please include that information too.

The ARRL is ready to receive your nominations and issue awards. If you know someone who fits the bill, then nominate them today. Please remember that it takes two nominations for a person to be given the award so if you know someone you want to nominate, see if you can find a "second" before you send it in.

VOICE OF AMERICA

The Voice of America is a 24-hour, international multimedia news broadcast facility operating around the clock.

Tour Hours: 12 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays)

Address: 330 Independence Ave., S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20237

Admission: Free

Reservations: Recommended and can be made online at <http://ibb7.ibb.gov/voatickets/index.cfm> or via phone at (202) 203-4990

Children: Tour is recommended for children 7 and above

Groups of 5 or more people: call (202) 203-4990 to make arrangements or submit our online form

Accessibility: When making reservations, please indicate if wheelchair or other assistance is required

Security Screening: All bags and visitors will be screened. Visitors should plan to arrive 10 minutes before their scheduled tour. Avoid bringing unnecessary belongings. Weapons and sharp objects are prohibited.

<http://www.voanews.com/english/about/visitVOA.cfm>

NOV. SWEEPSTAKES

The place to be this fall is the November Sweepstakes on November 18th. This will be my first time operating the November Sweepstakes Phone — actually any contest. I challenge you all to see how well you do. (CW Sweepstakes will be on November 4th). More information at the October meeting. See Sweepstakes rules are available on at <http://www.arrrl.org/contests/rules/2006/novss.html>
Marsha KA8DMR

Hear Ye!! Hear Ye !!

Our web page has moved to

www.hparc.org

A R O U N D T O W N . . .

21 Oct 2006 Great Lakeshore Super Swap

Holland ARC <http://www.hollandarc.org>

Talk-In: 147.060 (PL 94.8)

Contact: Sue Seidelman, KC8RQS

HARC, PO Box 2104

Holland, MI 49422-2104

Phone: 616-394-9821

Fax: 269-673-8632

[Email: swap@hollandarc.org](mailto:swap@hollandarc.org)

Location: Harbor Lights South Campus
3600 152nd Avenue, Holland, MI

22 Oct 2006 Blossomland Blast

Blossomland ARA

<http://www.blossomlandara.org>

Talk-In: 146.82(-) & 146.72(-)

Contact: Gary Wallis, KB8VIM

PO Box 175

St. Joseph, MI 49085

Phone: 269-429-3629

Fax: 269-982-8979

[Email: w8mai@comcast.net](mailto:w8mai@comcast.net)

Berrien Springs, MI
St. Joe Kickers Sport Club
M-139 at Linco Road, BARA

29 Oct 2006 USECA Swap

Utica Shelby Emergency Communications Association

<http://www.useca.net>

Talk-In: 147.180 + (PL 100)

Contact: Bob Hollingsworth, KZ8N

PO Box 46331

Mt. Clemens, MI 48046

Phone: 586-716-9114

[Email: hamfest@k8uo.com](mailto:hamfest@k8uo.com)

Location: Polish-American Century Club
33204 Maple Lane Drive, Sterling Heights, MI

31 Oct 2006 Halloween Spook Shop

In your local Neighborhood

Talk-In: 147.175 (Wicked Witch Frequency)

Contact: www.halloween.com (go ahead and click it)

Happy Halloween and Keep the Kiddies Safe

16 Dec 2006 Amateur Radio Group of Youth in Lowell (ARGYL)

<http://www.argyl.org>

Talk-In: 146.620 - (PL 94.8); 145.270 - (PL 94.8)

Contact: Al Eckman, WW8WW

11515 Boulder Drive East, Apt. 261

Lowell, MI 49331

Phone: 616-897-7659

[Email: al.eckman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:al.eckman@sbcglobal.net)

Location: Lowell High School

F O R U M P D F ' S

Tim Duffy K3LR was the moderator for the ARRL Antenna Forum at Dayton and has put some PDF files online to download.

2006 Dayton Hamvention Antenna Forum

Tim Duffy, K3LR Moderator

Friday, May 19, 2006 from 1 PM to 3:30 PM HARA Arena

<http://www.kkn.net/dayton2006/N6BV-Dayton-2006.pdf>

Another Way to View Propagation Predictions for DXing and Contesting

- Dean Straw, N6BV

http://www.kkn.net/dayton2006/w3lpl_dayton_2006.pdf

Design, Construction and Maintenance of Antennas and Towers for Storm Survival and Long Term Reliability

- Frank Donovan, W3LPL

http://www.kkn.net/dayton2006/w3lpl_dayton_2006.pdf

Construction of the Largest SteppIR Yagi Stack in the World at K9LTN

- Brion Gilbert, NOAE

<http://www.kkn.net/dayton2006/K9LTN.pdf>

Tips, Tricks, & Tools of the Trade

- Don Daso, K4ZA

<http://www.kkn.net/dayton2006/Antenna-Forum-Dayton-2006-K4ZA.pdf>

The BIG Antennas at Contest Station VE6JY

- Mitch Mitchell, VE6OH and Don Moman, VE6JY

<http://www.kkn.net/dayton2006/VE6JY.pdf>

NEXT MEETING

November 8, 2006
 7:30 P.M.
 (socializing begins at 7)
 Hoover Elementary School
 23720 Hoover Ave.
 Hazel Park



We're on the Web
www.hparc.org



Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club
 P.O. Box 368
 Hazel Park, MI 48030

Please check mailing label — is your membership about to expire?

FIRST CLASS MAIL — Dated Material