

THE CHERRY JUICE



Newsletter of the
Cherryland Amateur Radio Club
Traverse City, MI

ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB #1082



Hamfests / Swaps

05/06/2017 : 8am-noon

Cadillac Hamfest
Cadillac Junior High School
500 Chestnut St.
Cadillac, MI 49601
Talk-In: 146.98-

Sponsored By:

Wexauke Amateur Radio Club
<http://www.wexaukeearc.org>
Contact: Alton McConnell NU8L,
4189 W. 48 Rd, Cadillac MI 49601
231.876.1485 nu8l@yahoo.com

VE Exams

03/14/2017 : 7:30pm (ARRL VEC)

Gaylord Regional Airport,
1100 Aero Dr.
Gaylord, MI 49735-9822
Sponsor: Top Of Michigan ARC
Contact: John Clements
989.619.4499 john@kc8on.com
Walk-Ins Allowed

05/13/2017 : 1pm (ARRL VEC)

Traverse Area District Library,
Study Room D
610 Woodmere
Traverse City, MI 49686
Contact: Hope Francisco
(231) 218-0622 aa8sn@arrl.net
Walk-Ins Allowed

GENERAL MEETING: FEBRUARY 28TH

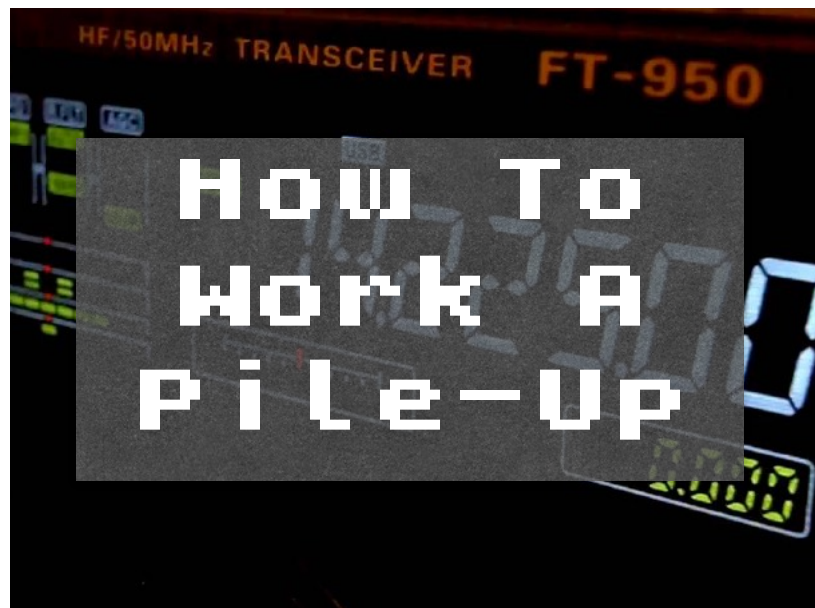
Tuesday - 7pm

The Salvation Army - Basement Meeting Hall
1239 Barlow St., Traverse City, MI 49686
(at the intersection of: Barlow st. & Boon st.)

Programs

1- Quilt Raffle

2- "How To Work A Pile-Up" by Laura WZ8C



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Cherryland ARC Election Results

Joe Erlewein, N8CN

Wow! We had a great turn-out (more than 30!) for the CARC meeting on January 24.

After reviewing the minutes from previous meetings, we had our 50/50 drawing, an update on the project to procure an intelligent repeater controller for the Yaesu DR-1X repeaters for 146.86 and 442.50, and then held elections.

Each year at the January board meeting, the CARC board develops a "slate" for as many electable positions as possible to present to the club for voting. This year, the board recommended the following slate:

After this was announced, nominations for all positions were opened.

There was one nomination from the floor. Dave K8WPE nominated Chris KD8MTT to challenge incumbent Chuck W8SGR for the board position. Chris accepted this nomination.

No other nominations having been made, the club voted to accept the modified slate of all positions except for the Board Member position.

A silent ballot was then conducted to vote for the Board position that had an at-large nomination. The choices were Chuck W8SGR and Chris KD8MTT. After ballots were counted, the results favored Chuck W8SGR.

2017 CARC Officers	Proposed Slate, 1/3/2017
President	Joe Erlewein, N8CN
Vice-President	Ernie Abel, K8RCT
Treasurer	Ward Kuhn, N8WK
Recording Secretary	David Poinsett, WB8APT
Corresponding Secretary	Joe Schnaidt, KC8RLU
Board Member 1	Chuck Mellberg, W8SGR
Cherry Juice Editor	Joe Erlewein, N8CN

The 2017 Executive Board is therefore as recommended by the board's original slate, following election proceedings:

2017 Cherryland ARC	Elected Officers
President	Joe Erlewein, N8CN
Vice-President	Ernie Abel, K8RCT
Treasurer	Ward Kuhn, N8WK
Recording Secretary	David Poinsett, W8APT
Corresponding Secretary	Joe Schnaidt, KC8RLU
Board Member 1	Chuck Mellberg, W8SGR
Board Member 2	Dave Hanchett, KJ4KFJ
Board Member 3	Mike Cleary, W8VPC
Cherry Juice Editor	Joe Erlewein, N8CN

Thank you all for such a large and positive turn-out at the Jan 24 general meeting. I hope to be seeing many of you throughout the year at many club events!

73 de Joe N8CN

2017 CARC Swap-N-Shop report

by Joe Novak W8TVT

We had a great swap this year! The weatherman brought us clear roads, temps in the high 30's and no snow! (Go figure, 24 hours later at 8:30 a.m. we were having a snow storm.) Attendance was at the 208 mark compared to attendance in 2015 at 140 and 160 in 2016.



We had a slight glitch in the Friday night set up time. We thought we could start at 7PM however we were notified by the school that there would be soccer practice in the gym until 8PM. It took a little effort, however we made the adjustment.

A fine group gathered at the Elk's Club for dinner. Those who were able to make it included KSSGZ, KSWPE, K8RCT, KCgON and his wife Bea, WSVPC, N8KV, AA8SN, K8OJP, WZ8C, W8KEC, KWSG, K8TB, K8AJ, NSRRR, and WSTVT. After eating, this group moved over to the school gym to help with set up procedures.

There waiting were WB8APT, WSSGR, KC8ZAP, KC8RLU, W8QPO, KJ4KFJ, N8KUT and the Weaver family of Steve, Lisa, Autumn and her friend Eli. Sister Aluyssa was home taking care of Grandma Weaver. Everyone went to work and all the tables, chairs, and kitchen items were set up for the next day's activities. Many people know the routine so were able to leave in 40 minutes.



W8QPO brought in his PA system and hooked it up. N8CN and KC8RLU used it to make announcements and pass out door prizes the next day.

N8CN and son Julian were the first ones to arrive early Saturday morning, followed by W8TVT. First vendors were KCSVMV, AB 8RV and WSQPO. We had set up 44 tables in the gym. All were assigned but there were three "no shows". However this was still a great turn out.



At 9 AM AASSN started the VE testing session. She was assisted by AC8UM, KC8CLR, N8QVQ, N8PU and WSQKP. 19 people took tests. The results were 10 people passing the technician test and 3 people passing the general exam.

2017 CARC Swap-N-Shop report (Continued)



KC8EXD, KB8RDI and N8RRR served coffee and rolls. Lisa reports selling six dozen rolls and many cups of coffee, hot chocolate, tea and pop. NSWK ran the ticket table and passed out new club directories. He was assisted by AA8 SN, KSRCT, WDSIIR, KSWPE and KBSAPT.

The club donation table had many helpers. They included N8CN, KC8RLU, K8WPPE, K8RCT, KB8APT and K8SGZ. They were able to sell many items that have been donated to the club. A full report will be made at the next board meeting.

Door prize winners included the following. The winner of the Baofeng UV-5R package was Hope AA8SN. Ralph KW8G from Howell won the quad-band radio, and Tom NS8K won the 2/440 antenna.



2017 CARC Swap-N-Shop report (Continued)

The size of the clean up crew gets larger each year. Special thanks to those who were able to stick around to help our after a long morning of activities. They included W8VPC, KB8APT, K8WPE, KJ4KFJ, N8CN, KC8RLU, K8RCT, KC8CLR and Bea, KC9ON and Sandy, K8SGZ, KC8EXD, KB8RDI, N8RRR and W8TVT.



It was a great group that once again proved that "many hands make light work"!

I hope everyone that was involved has been mentioned. At times it is getting hard to keep track of everyone! Thanks again.

73 de Joe W8TVT

Celebrating a swap-well-done, some CARC members and area hams enjoy libations at Sleders following the event.



White Pine Stampede report

Event was Feb 4, 2017

Mike W8VPC gave a report at the Feb 7 CARC Board meeting that the White Pine stampede went smoothly and that they had 6-7 participants. The White Pine Stampede staff also used a commercial 460-MHz repeater.

Mike said that the portable Command-Post Furnace had fallen victim to being inhabited by mice, which they discovered the night before the event. They were able to get things cleaned and working (with the exception of an aroma of mothballs) once it was deployed to Shanty Creek.

Most of the event proceeded without incident, until a skier fell and injured their back. Locating the correct mile marker (stick number) was a challenge for the crews, and by the time the location of the fall had been reached, another skier and vehicle had collected the injured skier and transported them to needed medical care.

The event concluded earlier (around 3:30pm) than anticipated and also went smoothly. It was noted that maintenance was needed on the command post, as an antenna may be loose, the roof leaks a bit and needs sealing, and the furnace should be cleaned again. Mike notes that this work will likely be done in the spring and is hoping for helpers, as work like this is all part of working with emergency managers and organizations, not just showing up and working a radio. The event organizers and emergency managers still prefer to use Amateur Radio volunteers and aren't keen on the use of cell phones or the 80MHz system.

All of the radio operators who worked the event as a volunteer received a T-shirt.

Thank you Mike W8VPC for all of your hard work and efforts!

Cherryland ARC SATERN station antenna installed!

Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network

On Wednesday Feb 22, the dual-band X50 antenna was installed on top of the tower at the Salvation Army building on Barlow St in Traverse City. For the last few years the club has been using a J-pole antenna (mono-band on 2m) for local VHF communication. As well as getting a few feet higher on the tower, we now have a high-gain antenna on both VHF and UHF ham bands.



In recent years, the tri-band beam antenna and rotor assembly had been removed from the tower due to damage it sustained as well as some noted tower instability. A project which spanned the last few years was to clean-up the antennas on the tower (G5RV, J-pole) and add a new dual-band antenna and feed it with 1/2 Hardline. Also on the list was to stabilize and shore-up the tower, its mount and brackets.

The remaining work to do here is to properly route the feed line into the building and to the appropriate location for the radio equipment. We're confident this will be done very soon.

Along with the general improvements a "higher-grade" and "higher-gain" antenna provide, this also frees-up the lower j-pole antenna to be used on VHF Packet or APRS full time. For the last year, W8TCM has been on-the-air on 145.09 running a Digipeater, PBBS (W8TCM-1) and KA-Node from this location. When events occurred or the station was used, the packet station needed to be taken off the air so that the voice radios could be used on the feed line and antenna. Now with the new installation, the packet station can remain in operation simultaneous to use of other radios/systems.

Special thanks to Ernie K8RCT for rallying this effort during our short "summer preview" this last week when temps were so balmy and cozy!

The Purple Crystal: A Column About Repeaters

Joe Erlewein, N8CN

Welcome to the Purple Crystal for February! Last month I reported that the K8WQK repeater on 147.38+ had gone offline. Pete was able to get a new repeater system online and operational just before and for the duration of the White Pine Stampede which took place on Feb 4th. As usual, Mike W8VPC orchestrated the organization of communicators for the event and the K8WQK repeater was essential to their success, as it is the repeater which most effectively covers all of the area the event occupies. There may be other issues at the site however, as the system went back offline sometime after Feb 17 and as of this issue is still down.

In January I also wrote about upcoming changes to the N8OUZ MotoTrbo digital repeater here in Traverse City. If you missed it, you can read it on the Newsletters page at www.CherrylandARC.com (as well as any other previous newsletter we've published!) which might be helpful - it included a short "primer" on how the MotoTrbo DMR version of "Digital" voice communication works. Anyway, here is an update on that project and change.

On Feb 22, the N8OUZ/R was moved off of the DMR-MARC core C-Bridge architecture and onto the DMRPlus architecture. For those unfamiliar, the C-Bridge architecture is a commercial IPSC (Internet Protocol Site Connect) solution for MotoTrbo provided by Rayfield. It is mostly used in public safety and government settings, and was adapted for use by several Amateur users of IPSC with MotoTrbo. Unfortunately, a C-Bridge is costly (both hardware and licensing) and the architecture scales but with massive infrastructure resources (servers, redundant links, etc) and effort necessary. Also, the C-Bridge environment is primarily "static" - meaning that it's normally set up a certain way and then only modified when an intended change is to be made.

Since we are living in the era now of digital "Dongles" for DMR, D-star and other modes, Amateurs have been experimenting with access to the MotoTrbo DMR repeaters through these devices. Interfacing with the more commercial solutions to IPSC-based links had many challenges, the largest one being "How do we

make a system designed to be static more flexible with the changes introduced by users having devices that need to link to an infrequently-changing core IPSC structure?" Enter solutions like DMRPlus with its more hierarchical structure and multi-node multi-tier access solutions.

DMR-MARC is one of many organizations which provides a linking substructure for repeaters linked to its networks. DMR-MARC has introduced a DMRPlus-based solution in tandem with its C-Bridge-based production networks. The vision is that, over time, repeaters wishing to provide more "flexible, user-influenced" solutions on repeaters will migrate to the DMRPlus architecture and away from the C-Bridge topology. At this time, DMR-MARC has no plans to retire or discontinue their C-Bridge environment as they recognize the continuing need for certain static and unchanging core environments. Also, having such a network included with DMRPlus allows back-linking to the traditional IPSC-based commercial environments on a like-for-like link basis (think: apples to apples).

Early tests of the new DMRPlus have proven very positive. You can look at the available groups on the DMR-MARC website page: <http://www.dmr-marc.net/FAQ/dmrplus-america.html> and use that information to program your radio and try it out! I've been using my less-than-\$100 Tytera MD-380 and have been easily able to link up to the North America, Illinois, Tri-State, Midwest, and have tried a few European reflectors as well as one in Italy just to test the fact that any user can link the repeater to any available reflector whenever they wish. It all works very nicely and has been very stable so far.

If you've got a MotoTrbo radio and would like some hints on how to set it up to try this out, please let me know, I may even be able to send you a working Codeplug or program your radio for you. It boils down to having channels on your radio for each reflector you may want to try talking on, and the list can be found on the webpage above.

I hope to hear some of you soon on DMR!

73 de Joe N8CN - joe@n8cn.org

MI QSO PARTY is April 15-16

Via Mike N8MR, 2017 MiQP Publicity

**Announcing the 2017 Michigan QSO Party
Just Have Some Fun!!!!**

- **Chance to get on the air**
- **Single Op, Multi Op, Mobile, EOC**
- **Be the station others want to work**
- **Maybe activate a rare county?**
- **Excellent Club Activity**
- **Reason to get together as group**
- **Join the fun in the "EOC" station category**
- **Excellent Training opportunity!**
- **Get new members on the air!**
- **Friendly Competition**

Let's all help make Michigan "radio-active" on the 15th of April!!!!

**Get your local EOC on the air and show the emergency management team
how Amateur Radio can benefit their efforts!!!**

The 2017 Michigan QSO Party, sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club,
is from 1600Z April 15 until 0400Z April 16.

Stations may operate the full 12 hours. Phone and CW on 80/40/20/15/10 meters. Single-op, multi-op, and mobile categories. Work stations once per band and mode. MI-to-MI QSOs allowed. Work portables and mobiles again as they change county, state or province. Exchange QSO number and location (county for MI stations, state/province or "DX" for others).

Suggested frequencies: CW-3545, 7045, 14045, 21045, 28045; Phone-3825, 7200, 14250, 21300, 28450. One point per phone QSO, two points per CW QSO. Count multipliers once per mode.

Multipliers are MI counties for all entries, plus states, provinces and "DX" for MI entries only. Final score is total QSO points times total multipliers.

Submit logs no later than 30 days after the contest. Electronic logs in Cabrillo format are submitted via the Log Submittal page on the MiQP web site <http://www.miqp.org/submitLogFileMiQP.html>. Mail paper logs with summary sheets to: Mad River Radio Club, c/o Dave Pruett, 2727 Harris Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48198.

[MiQP Log Submittal](#)

www.miqp.org

Enter or Select info for all the fields below and then press the submit log button on the bottom of the page.

Enter Callsign Used during Michigan QSO Party

For full rules, along with free logging software, log and summary sheets, see <http://www.miqp.org>.

MiQP Home Page
www.miqp.org

Quilt Raffle at Tuesday 2/28 meeting to benefit CARC

Hope Francisco, AA8SN

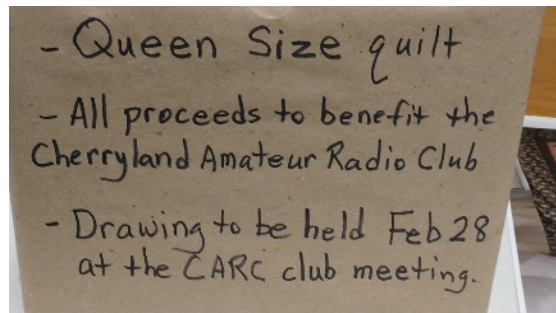
During our General Meeting on Tuesday at the Salvation Army, we will be drawing the winning ticket for this beautiful Queen size quilt that has been made by our own Hope Francisco, AA8SN. \$5 gets you in the game with one ticket. There are deals at \$10, \$20, \$40, \$50 and \$100 prices for additional tickets. Hope had this to say about her creation:

"On my last visit to my mother-in-law's house in Alaska, I had observed that she had decorated her living room in neutral brown colors. I had been thinking that it would be nice to make her a quilt as she has done so much for us over the years, so I decided to make a quilt using a brown color scheme as she seemed to like that color.

I bought various complementary brown quilt fabrics thinking to surprise her but they ended up making a trip down, so I showed her the fabrics. After one look she declared that she did not like brown! Well, there went my idea out the window! I decided then that I would take that fabric and make a quilt to raffle off to benefit the radio club which has been such a big part of my life in the past 22 years that I have been a member. "

We're really thankful for Hope's generosity and marvelous talent! We're also thankful that her mother-in-law doesn't like the color brown!

We'll see you all at the CARC Meeting Tuesday Night, Feb 28th, at 7pm when we'll draw the winner!



Equipment for Sale

- Ameritron AL-80A for sale. Brand new Power transformer the tube about 3 years old with only a year use on it. Just not using and don't need spare. Asking \$500.00 (Will ship but add \$100.00.)
 - Contact: Mike, KG8CW kg8cw.home@gmail.com 231-409-0149
- Kenwood TH-D72A HT, 2m/70cm (144MHz/440MHz) Dual Bander w/1200/9600bps TNC, APRS.GPS, Sky Command System. Asking \$333.00. See pics and classified at at the [Cherryland ARC Classified Ad page](#).
 - Contact: Eric Lavoie 231-587-0715

CARC Board Meeting Agenda / Minutes - Feb 7, 2017

David Poinsett, W8APT

Minutes for Cherryland Amateur Radio Club Board Meeting, 2/7/2017

- Present: KC8RLU, N8CN, W8SGR, W8TVT, K8RCT, KJ4KFJ, WB8APT, W8VPC, W8NWO, K8WPE, KC8ZAP, K8SGV, AA8SN
1. Minutes from last month - K8RCT motion to approve. KC8RLU 2nd. Approved.
 2. Treasurers Report - Tabled
 3. Repeater System Upgrade Proposals
 - a. Battery purchase and installation.
 - i. N8CN to discuss with K8SGZ.
 - b. New Fusion repeater to replace 440 machine.
 - i. Repeater ready to install - Coordinate with Jim Marco
 - ii. KJ4KFJ motion to sell MSR-2000 w/ RC-85 controller (old 86 repeater) and keep Kenwood 440 machine as a spare. K8RCT 2nd. Approved unanimously.
 - c. Upgrade two meter Fusion repeater with new firmware Still under consideration
 - d. Repeater Controller investigation – report from committee (N8CN & W8VPC & K8SGZ)
 - i. RC210 vs ASCOMM 7330 Controller
 - ii. Other options - N8CN to discuss with K8SGZ and W8VPC
 - e. Antenna on Interlochen tower
 - i. N8CN motion to invite John Martin to present options for investigating problem.

W8VPC 2nd. Approved unanimously

 - f. EchoLink on 86 repeater
 - i. K8RCT motion to install EchoLink on 86 repeater. KJ4KFJ 2nd. Approved unanimously. K8SGZ and N8CN will have kill switches.
 4. Swap report W8TVT reports 44 tables total. This Includes 5 for club and 2 donation tables. 6 tables still available. Additional equipment has been donated for sale. K8SGZ suggests Power Point and video display for swap. AA8SN reports 15 people registered for license exams and that more VEs are needed.
 - a. Sign up volunteers -
 - b. Sound system – KC8RLU confirms that W8QPO has sound equipment.
 - c. Door prizes (N8CN) –
 - i. dual-band (Ed Fong) antenna,
 - ii. Baofeng HT To be supplied by K8SGZ
 - iii. quad-band (6m, 2, 220,440) radio,
 - iv. Various gift certificates available
 - d. Refreshments – Donuts & Coffee only W8TVT confirms that Weavers will help with refreshments.
 5. TBARG report (from Jan 12 meeting and NET changes) K8SGZ reports upcoming practice exercise, and presentation made to Benzie Public Safety officials who expressed interest in partnership. No response from Munson, but branch hospitals interested. No access to gear in Munson. Suggestion to move gear to K8SGZ office. Suggestion to promote availability of Baofeng radios to new licensees; AA8SN will assist.
 6. White Pine Stampede report. W8VPC reports 6 or 7 volunteers helped. Additional maintenance on portable command post needed. Worked with event staff on proper radio use. Skier injury provided learning opportunity. Event ended early. Event leaders want help again in 2018.
 7. Net Control stations for MESH NET Lots of recent check-ins. K8RGB fills in when W8VPC is not available.
 8. K8RCT expressed concern about access to club equipment in work room. KJ4KFJ motion to change lock. W8VPC 2nd. Approved unanimously.
 9. February program ideas: Bring your HT, bring in your radio, QRP presentation by K8WPE, email N8CN with more ideas. Maybe have a program on amateur satellites in warmer weather.
 10. K8RCT motion to adjourn. W8SGR 2nd. Approved.

CHERRYLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - INFORMATION

Meetings:

Club Meetings:

The official CARC Club Meeting occurs on the **Fourth Tuesday** of each month at 7pm. Anyone is welcome.

Board Meetings:

The CARC Board meets on the **First Tuesday** of each month at 7pm. Board meetings are open all.

Project Night:

The CARC meets for a "project night" on **all other Tuesday nights** at 7pm. Anyone is welcome to come and use the tools, parts, resources, and "elmers" in the project room / SATERN station.

All Meetings occur at the **Salvation Army building on Barlow St. (at Boon st.) in Traverse City.**

The project room is on the **basement level.**

Membership:

To become a member of the CARC:

1. Fill out a membership form.

You may fill out a form at any meeting, fill out the form online via the website, or you can email cherrylandarc@gmail.com to receive a form via email.

2. Submit dues with your form.

Dues are \$24 per year and are due January 1 each year or with your membership form submission. (pro-rated)
(Family Memberships available for \$26)

That's all for the February 2017 issue of The Cherry Juice!

As always, if you have any suggestions or comments, I'm all ears!

joe@n8cn.org

73, Joe N8CN

Club Repeaters

W8TCM/R

146.86- (PL 114.8)

W8ZTB Memorial Repeater

W8TCM/R

442.50- (PL 114.8)

W8NGH Memorial Repeater

Club Officers

President

Joe Erlewein, N8CN

Vice President

Ernest Abel, K8RCT

Recording Secretary

David Poinsett, W8APT

Corresponding Secretary

Joe Schnaidt, KC8RLU

Treasurer

Ward Kuhn, N8WK

Directors

Mike Cleary, W8VPC

Dave Hanchett, KJ4KFJ

Chuck Mellberg, W8SGR

Cherry Juice Editor

Joe N8CN

Club Radio Nets

MESH NET

Monday Evening Social Hour

Each Monday, 8pm

146.86- (PL 114.8)

SMASH NET

Sunday Morning Amateur Social Hour

Each Sunday, 9am

3.935 MHz

<SK>

The Wexaukee Amateur Radio Club Presents the 55th Annual

Cadillac Amateur Radio and Computer Swap



Saturday May 6, 2017

Doors Open at 8 AM

Admission \$5.00

Cadillac Junior
High School

*Onsite
Radio
Raffle
Available*

*Meetings for
The UP
Net
And
QCWA*

**Talk In on
146.980
K8CAD
Cadillac
Repeater**

Lots of Vendors

Door Prizes

ARRL Card Checker --- Bring your Cards!

500 Chestnut Street ***** Cadillac, Michigan
Parking and Food at location

See: <http://www.wexaukeearc.org/>

No Firearms are Allowed on School Grounds

Table Information

Table Rental:

\$12.00 per 8ft table

Payment due with reservation

Table Request Forms available on

<http://www.wexaukeearc.org/>

For Reservations or Information

Wexaukee Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 163

Cadillac, Mi 49601

Testing Information

Testing for all License
Classes will be held onsite.

Registration at 8:30

Test session at 10:30

Session limited to 50
applicants please.

