

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-

VE Exams at 10:30AM

Sponsored By:

Wexaukee 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

05/6/2017 : 10:30am (ARRL VEC)

(Info above - at Cadillac Hamfest)

05/9/2017 : 7:30pm (ARRL VEC)

Sponsor: Top of Michigan ARC

Gaylord Regional Airport

1100 Aero Dr.

Gaylord, MI 49735-9822

Contact: John Clements

(989) 619-4499 john@kc9on.com

Walk-Ins Allowed

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

Sponsor: Cherryland ARC

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: MARCH 28TH

Tuesday - 7pm

The Salvation Army - Basement Meeting Hall

1239 Barlow St., Traverse City, MI 49686

(at the intersection of: Barlow st. & Boon st.)

Program

The K3LR Story

With Special Guest Bob Naumann W5OV from DXEngineering



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Michigan Section Volunteer Contribution

by John J. McDonough WB8RCR

The following information was sent by John McDonough WB8RCR to recognize participants from the Amateur Radio service for contributing to the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) as stated in the ARRL 2016 report. Anyone who is an active member of TBARG or who participates should feel proud! Thank you!

From: John J. McDonough

By now most of you are aware that the Michigan Section topped all other sections in ARRL's 2016 ARES report.

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Public%20Service/ARES/ARES%202016%20Report.pdf>

Once again, I want to thank all our folks for their hard work, and know that it does not go unnoticed.

Today I got the following notes:

From: "Bush, Christopher (MSP)"

Date: Fri, 17 Mar 2017

Good Morning John and Larry,

I have received a copy of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service 2016 Annual report and I am extremely impressed with the numbers of volunteer hours within the State of Michigan. The partnership between the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security and the amateur radio community is important in providing necessary communications during times of emergency and disaster.

We greatly appreciate the 61,596 number of hours provided by countless volunteers making Michigan the leader within FEMA region V. These dedicated individuals are a critical piece in providing our citizens the very best public safety response and services.

The work that these volunteers have done has not gone unnoticed and we look forward to the continued partnership in the future.

Thank you for your continued service.

Insp. Chris Bush

Assistant Division Commander

Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division

Michigan State Police

7150 Harris Drive

Dimondale, MI 48821

From: "Tom Gallagher, NY2RF"

Date: Fri, 17 Mar 2017

Inspector Bush:

Thank you for your note to our members and volunteers from ARRL, WB8RCR and WB8R, which was passed to me here at ARRL headquarters. More than anything, thanks for noticing.

I know that our members are loyal Michiganders, good Americans, and generous and caring members of their local communities.

On behalf of ARRL, I am grateful for the recognition of Michigan Hams.

73, Respectfully,

Tom Gallagher - NY2RF

Chief Executive Officer

ARRL Headquarters

ARRL - The national association for Amateur Radio(tm)

The Purple Crystal: A Column About Repeaters

Joe Erlewein, N8CN

Welcome to the Purple Crystal for March! 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. The system went back offline sometime after Feb 17 but as of March 19 is now online again!

This month's update comes to us from John KC9ON regarding the 146.82- NM8RC repeater in Gaylord, MI

" More than a year ago the TOMARC 146.820 machine took a hit with the straight line winds that came through — the same storm that had adverse effects in and around the greater Grand Traverse area. About the next week later another storm seemed to make it worse. My 100W radio would not even hit the repeater less than 5 miles away and transmit coverage was not far from the eastern city limits. Although insurance covered a majority we were still short about a grand to fully bring back the "Mt. Jack" system.



So instead we decided to get at least something running on the Alpine Center roof (AKA the old hospital north of town which is now county office and courts), thanks to the County's blessing.

The Alpine center is a 2.5 story building with a 60' tower on the roof. Mt Jack sits idle for now until funds become available to finish the new antenna/coax and climbing costs.

The new repeater pattern is about 7 miles farther east than it used

to be but coverage is fantastic considering the new location and height. The footprint in the photos section is pretty darn close, at least in my westerly travels is has been.



When installing the antenna I tried a few repeaters such as T.C., Alpena, & Rogers City all with a 5W HT. Wish I could move my shack up there!

73 John kc9on"

John sent along some pictures of the repeater work. Be sure to check out the TOMARC and their activities (and other photos) over at www.nm8rc.com !

73 de Joe N8CN - joe@n8cn.org

Munson Healthcare donates old North Flight dispatch tower, Elmers donates Crane.

Earlier this year, Munson Healthcare contacted the Cherryland ARC regarding their North Flight dispatch center on Stults Drive at the Traverse City airport. Munson was in the process of moving the North Flight operations from the older hanger to a new hanger in a joint partnership with Spectrum Health. After the new building was opened (to the immediate West of the old hanger, completing their Phase I of the project) the old hanger was to be demolished. A new hanger will be erected eventually which will house all of the North Flight and Aero Med vehicles.

Munson told the Cherryland ARC that if we could remove the old tower (including antennas, feed line and accessories) that they could have it! A few calls around town also yielded a very helpful donation from Team Elmer's in the form of up to 2 hours of use of a large Boom Truck from their Crane team.

The airport has a restriction that if anyone exceeds a height of 50' then FAA approval needs to be done involving lots of lead time and paperwork. Thankfully, the tower consisted of 8-foot sections and the laser measurement tool put the top of the tower plate at 48'9". The antenna atop the tower exceeded 50' already, but extending the boom to just over half of the height of the tower was easily permitted with simple coordination of the KTVC ground operations crew.



On Friday March 3, the CARC crew met with the Elmer's boom truck operator and began work. Most of the prep work involved removing several hundred feet of feed line (some 1/2" heliax, LMR-400, and a few strands of RG-8 and RG-58) and removing most of the tower leg bolts. There were no guy-wires, just three legs cemented into a slab. I had stopped by a few times during the preceding week to spray all the lower nuts and bolts in a bath of PB-Blast to guarantee easier removal. With the help of Dave KJ4KFJ's impact driver, the bolts were easily removed.

The crew hit our first impasse when the boom of the truck was to be extended to the tower. We planned to use the "field day method" to take the tower down, which meant lifting the tower at just-above-half-mast with the boom using a strap around the tower. One problem - someone had to get a strap onto the tower. Due to the cross-hatch pattern on the tower, it was not possible to use the boom to "drop" it through. Unlike the "field day method" we had not erected the tower and left a rope or strap threaded through a mid-section. Someone needed to climb the tower and manually attach or thread a strap. The entire CARC crew was afraid of heights. As was the Boom operator (and also he was not able to climb due to insurance/liability issues). Eventually Jonah KC8KXF strapped on some courage and scampered up the tower and threaded the strap, saving the day!



North Flight Tower (continued)

With the boom truck in place and with tension on the strap, removal of the tower from the base was the next tricky part. Five people with ropes on each of the three tower legs held tension while the boom truck applied over 1000 lbs of lift to the tower. Dave KJ4KFJ hammered on the legs to break the rust-lock and unbind the metal. The base popped free, and the rope-men controlled the base's travel with the ropes.

The tower had been grabbed just below half of its height, with just a LITTLE more weight on the top compared to bottom, making descent a little nervous but easily doable. The base end was walked out and the boom truck lowered the tower to the ground.

Once on the ground, the crew made quick work of stripping antennas, removing feed line clamps, and eventually separating the tower sections, which all fit into my smallest open-top trailer. Dave was able to get a few of the antennas and feed line into his truck.

Pete was instrumental in making sure all of the feed line was carefully removed from the building and coiled up neatly for transport. Pete also provided much of the knowledge about this type of tower which was an awesome resource to have as we planned how to safely accomplish lowering it and disassembling it for transport.

The Cherryland ARC now has this as an asset, and we can discuss how to best use it or we can discuss selling it to benefit the general fund for other projects.

Special thanks to all of the volunteers who helped out: Joe W8TVT, Glen K8SGZ, Dave KJ4KFJ, Pete K8WQK, and Jonah KC8KXF. Also, Special Thanks to Munson and Team Elmer's for the donation of the resources! The CARC is fortunate to benefit from this generosity!

73, Joe N8CN



Quilt Raffle Results from the 2/28 Cherryland ARC meeting

Hope Francisco, AA8SN

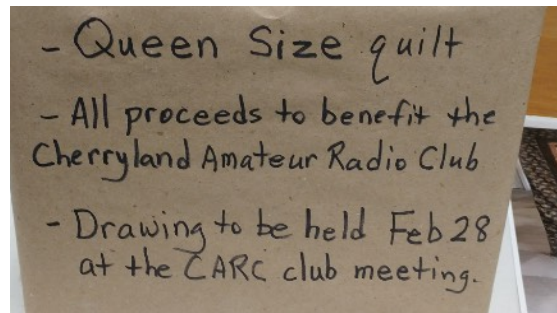
At last month's general meeting, a drawing was held for this beautiful Queen size quilt that has been made by our own Hope Francisco, AA8SN. Tickets were \$5 each. Hope had this to say about her creation:

"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. "

The proceeds from this effort brought in \$630 for the club!
The winner was Hope's neighbor, Camy LaLonde

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!



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

Equipment for Sale

For Sale - Flex-1500

This is a great SDR radio that provides a fantastic receiver and low power transmitter. I've purchased an ICOM-7300 and this is gathering dust on the shelf. The unit is "as-new" and works fantastic. The original box is included. Additional information at: <http://www.flexradio.com/amateur-products/flex-series/flex-1500/> I really like the flexibility of the SDR interface. It's great to see sections of the band and see the locations of the signals. Much better then spinning the dial and hoping someones on.

This unit is like new and works as new. I'd take ~~\$440.00~~, the going price on eBay without the shipping.

Don K18KR K18KR@icloud.com <http://dshikoski.com>

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.

