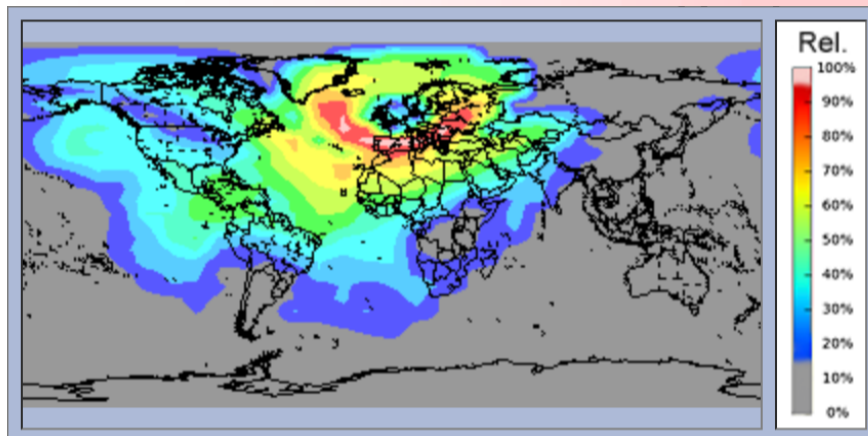


The Cherry Juice



February, 2020
Volume 47, Issue 2

Newsletter of the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club,
Traverse City, Michigan



HF Predictions for 7Mhz for February, 2020

February 25th Meeting Program:

Ernie K8RCT and Dave NU8A present:

HF Propagation Prediction

Ever wondered how to tell what days and times are best for 40M?

What band is best for Europe right now?

When your chances for hitting that rare DXpedition contact on the island are best?

Dave and Ernie have some methods you'll want to take note of!

This is something you won't want to miss!

Welcome 2020 Cherryland ARC Board

On the January 23rd Cherryland ARC meeting, Elections were held for several open positions on the Cherryland ARC Executive Team.

Following 2020 Elections, the CARC Board is:

Officers:

President - Ernie K8RCT

Vice President - Glen K8SGZ

Treasurer - Ward N8WK

Recording Secretary - Hope AA8SN

Corresponding Secretary - Joe KC8RLU

CJ Editor - Joe N8CN

Directors:

Board - Jim WB2HLP

Board - Mark KC8ZAP

Board - Dave KJ4KFJ

Thank you all for the nominations and the ballots! Let's make 2020 a wonderful and exciting year!



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Cherryland ARC Board

- President
Joe Schnaidt KC8RLU
- Vice President
Glen Johnson K8SGZ
- Recording Secretary
David Poinset NU8A
- Corresponding Secretary
Ernie Abel K8RCT
- Treasurer
Ward Kuhn N8WK
- Directors
Dave Hanchett KJ4KFJ
Chuck Mellberg W8SGR
Mike Cleary W8VPC
- Station Manager
Joe Schnaidt KC8RLU
- Cherry Juice Editor
Joe Erlewein N8CN



ARRL Affiliated Club #1082

Did You Know?

The Cherryland Amateur Radio Club was founded before 1950 and was a relatively-active, small but tight-knit group of people. However, like many groups in their infancy, the Cherryland club lacked the reciprocal tenacity small groups need to be a persistent element in the community over a long period of time.

By the 1960s, the club had lost significant momentum, and regular activities and record-keeping tapered off. The club was on the edge of becoming “not a thing anymore”.

If not for another small and dedicated group of people, the fate of the Cherryland ARC could have been sealed before the mid-1970s.

By 1974, 2M Simplex was starting to be a more popular mode, and “Repeaters” were a mysterious and new element surfacing in the hobby.

Several names and callsigns begin to surface while looking through the notes on the club’s happenings and activities during this time. People like Ike W8GVS, John WA8BUB, Jerry W8YVU, John W8LQZ, Wells W8GI, Bill W8JUY, Ken W8QKP, Frank W8TVQ, David WB8EYB, Edna WB8EYL, Jack K8XX, Wells W8GI, Terence WB8PLQ, and **Joe W8TVT**.

This group laid a solid foundation and footing for many wonderful and successful years of Amateur Radio fun through the Cherryland ARC.

Much of their planning, involvement and dedication is what made the club possible, and we wouldn’t be here today without their efforts! I’m sure you’ve recognized at least ONE of those callsigns above, right?? For real — go check out the 1974-1980 Cherry Juice issues that are online:

http://cherrylandarc.com/?page_id=69

Joe Novak W8TVT Honored with Cherryland Amateur Radio Club Lifetime Achievement Award

When I was asked to give a presentation for the award being given to Joe Novak at the January meeting, it was probably the most stressful task I’ve accepted in quite a few years. The stressors? Not what to talk about. Nope, no way! There are volumes of information, years of correspondence, records, awards, notes, writings, pictures... DEFINITELY no shortage of material or inspiration. The stressor here was .. “How am I going to make my presentation fit within the time constraints of an hour-long meeting and still make sure I don’t miss anything?” I had to give this my very best shot!

Each year we present a “Ham Of The Year” award to a Cherryland ARC member who has shown sustained dedication and commitment to the club, and through it, the community. Have you ever wondered how that process got started? how the ball keeps rolling? How those sweet trophy lamps get made? A lot of it has to do with Joe. Actually all the lamps do... he’s personally constructed them all. In fact, awarding him the HOY in 1996 required quite a “switcheroo”. We had convinced Joe that he was presenting to Ward N8WK (recipient the next year, 1997), but ... “interrupted” Joe’s presentation to award him with the honor instead.

Joe has been the driving force for inclusion, marketing, and outreach within the club since your editor approached the club in 1991, a curiously wide-eyed 14-year-old witnessing the unveiling of the vast, connected world of Ham Radio. But this all started WAY before me.

You see, Joe stepped in with a group of other hams after the Cherryland ARC had sort-of become “dormant” and inactive in the 60s into the 70s. In 1974 Joe was the treasurer. This was the year of the club’s very first swap and it’s 2nd Christmas party. Gaining momentum, by 1976 annual plans included a Field Day presence, an annual fox hunt, and an organized EmCom group complete with SET participation and a calling-tree. Records of membership numbers in the club would almost triple from 1974 to 1980. Within two years the Swap-N-Shop was operating at a profit, which most event organizers would find amazing.

Joe did take a few breaks, most notably prior to 1983, which was the year his sons Stephen and Douglas were recipients of the rank of Eagle Scout at Court of Honor. Joe was very involved with their Troop (132) as Scoutmaster, and carried his interest and involvement in scouting on through many years.



*Joe Novak, W8TVT,
Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient*

He made sure the club had an active net, a fresh supply of logo attire including jackets, hats, t-shirts and patches, and made sure that Field Day and other events were open to and inclusive of everyone.

Joe became known through the years as “Mr. Swap-N-Shop”, as he knew the steps to the dance of the swap inside and out. He knew how to plan the event, who to contact, how to get volunteers, and how to throw a great swap.

Joe is a regular attendee of not just the monthly club meetings, but almost all board meetings and project nights. Joe has been involved with many, many special event activities such as communications for events (the golden mile, ride around torch, white pine stampede, and others), lighthouse activations, national parks on the air, and countless other events. Joe is an active member and active promoter of the Amateur Radio service and the Cherryland ARC.

Joe developed an interest in bicycling and went on many tours, some long-distance treks such as around the entire Lake Michigan lakeshore. Other club members would join Joe (with radios) on several of their bicycle outings, some of which became known HBOs—Ham Bike Outings.

Joe also was instrumental in organizing at least one Cherry Festival related “special event”. Special QSL cards and postcards of the Traverse City area were sent to those who made contact. Joe has also made it his special interest to supply and operate a special Solar/Battery VHF station for Field Day, which earns the club special points. While doing this, Joe also always takes careful notes of who arrives when, on what day, how they help out, and who stays the night. Actually, Joe does this for a LOT of events—like the swaps, Field Days, and other special events. Those of you who handle group communication know what kind of a golden nugget this can be... everyone “has an idea” of who was there, but a record of it in black-and-white is something you can really work with to be more inclusive of everyone.

While Joe has been so active in the club, he has not done so at the sacrifice of his own unique interests in the vast landscape of subtopics in the hobby arena of Ham Radio. Joe is a regular on the MESH Net (Mondays 8pm) and even the HF SMASH NET (Sundays 9am), and promotes activity and social aspects of the hobby through both. Joe also has had an interest in a fun little sport called “County Hunting”. You can find out more about this by looking into the MARAC group, www.MARAC.org and has worked all counties. Yes, all of the more-than 3077 counties, he’s make contact with, at least once.

Joe’s wife Janet tells me that, at one point, Joe had found a baby monitor at a garage sale. Joe set it up in his shack, monitoring a MARAC calling frequency, and listened carefully while working about the house, so as not to miss those “important calls” for counties he desperately needed to complete the paperwork for the award, and to help others in the MARAC group achieve their awards as well. Ed Eklin K8ZZ once told the Cherryland group during a presentation that Joe was instrumental for himself and several other MARAC members in connecting those hunting for QSOs to complete their awards. (Ed has worked all counties 3 times.. And among other MARAC awards is close to earning a special award for “transmitting from” each of all of the 3077+ counties!)

Of the amazing and interesting things Joe has done with his time, talents and energy within the Amateur Radio community, of most notable acclaim is the support given to him by his wife Janet. Janet N8RRR is so very, very supportive, helpful, and genuinely interested in the role amateurs play within the local and global community, and throughout the years has shown an amazing capacity to put up with all kinds of equipment, wires and weird noises coming from every which way, and all this stuff on houses and vehicles and in yards and trees.

We are proud to have Joe Novak, W8TVT as such a long-time and supportive member of the Cherryland ARC, and we know that without Janet’s support and similarly enormous equipment, the club would not be the amazingly active, educational, and inspirational resource it is today for this community. On behalf of the entire Cherryland ARC, Thank you Joe and Janet!

Joe, N8CN

Volunteers Needed for Boy Scouts Merit Badge Tech Day

On March 14th, at the ISD Career Tech Center (880 Parsons Rd in Traverse City), there will be a special “Merit Badge Tech Day” for scouts to focus time and energy to earning several merit badges. One of those they can earn is the Radio merit badge.

In order to earn their Radio Merit Badge, each Boy Scout should have some exposure to Amateur Radio, preferably operating and making contacts.

The Cherryland Amateur Radio Club will have volunteers providing antennas and equipment, and assisting the scouts on Saturday, March 14. We are hoping you can volunteer!

We need YOU to help scouts learn about Amateur Radio, or alternatively help to make contact with the scouts, between 9:30am and noon, and after a lunch break, again from 1:30pm to 4pm. We are asking for people to bring their portable and/or easily set-up-able stations to facilitate some demonstrations and making contacts.

Contact Joe N8CN - 231.668.4223, or email: email@CherrylandARC.com

This is a great opportunity to help out the club and the Boy Scouts if you can assist at the event. You can help on the air if you're going to be sitting in the shack Saturday, or even driving out and about TC during the day.

Event Link: <https://scoutingevent.com/272-MBT>

The scouts will be in Traverse City (near the Career Tech Center) and We will plan to be monitoring the following:

VHF/UHF FM Phone:

* **146.52**

146.86- PL114.8

442.50+ PL114.8

HF SSB Phone:

3.940

* **7.190**

* **14.290**

18.140

21.360

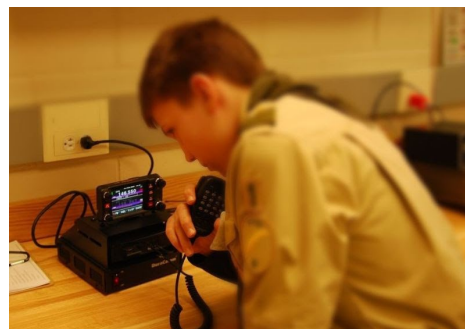
24.960

28.390

50.160

(please adjust +/- in the case of other activity)

(* = preferred / standby monitoring)



Times:

There will be two groups of scouts, and contacts should take place near the end of each class' timeslots:

Class 1 : 9:30am - 12pm,

Class 2 : 1:30pm - 4pm

Are you PAID UP?

Dues this year are :
\$24.00

Family Membership:
add \$2

Discounted Student
Membership:
\$5

Please send your Dues
to:

Ward Kuhn N8WK
PO Box 987
Traverse City, MI 49685

The CARC re-organization as
a 501 (c)(3) non-profit is
almost complete.



Skywarn Spotter Classes Offered

NWS Gaylord is again offering Skywarn Spotter Courses.

The Traverse City date/time/location is:

Storm Spotter Training - Traverse City
Wednesday, April 22
Wed, April 22, 6:00pm – 7:30pm
Grand Traverse County Health Department, 2600 Lafranier Rd, Traverse City, MI 49686, USA

Below is the calendar of spotter training classes scheduled across northern Michigan:

https://www.weather.gov/apx/outreach_events

If you are unable to make it to a training class or would like a refresher on weather spotter principles, there are several on-line storm spotter training modules and reference materials available:

[Role of the Skywarn Spotter](#) - COMET Module
[Skywarn Spotter Convective Basics](#) - COMET Module
[Weather Spotter's Field Guide \(PDF\)](#)

Do you have questions about SKYWARN or becoming a spotter?
[Click here for the SKYWARN FAQ page.](#)

Most sessions are open to the general public with no need to pre-register.

All training is free and usually lasts around 1.5 hours.

If you have questions about any upcoming event or the spotter program, contact NWS Gaylord Warning Coordination Meteorologist [Pat Bak](#).

Swap-N-Shop 2020 a Smashing Success!

Well, the 2020 Swap is in the books! With 174 tickets sold, we came in a "little bit" under last year's number somehow, despite the wonderful weather both the days preceding and the day of the swap. As this was my first time "organizing" the swap, a few things were forgotten along the way. One of those things might be the "who did what when, and how." So if I list volunteers and leave someone out — I am very sorry! And please let me know! I promise I'll do a better job keeping track next year!



As always the GTACS was a pleasure to work with, and our second year in the St. Francis High School gymnasium was wonderful. This year we had nice new carpeted flooring and a few extra tables. We almost pre-sold ALL of the tables this year, resulting in the need to "add an extra row" at the last minute. Logistics went well, with a great, healthy crew for dinner and set-up on Friday night. Saturday morning we opened the doors to those with tables at 7am, and at 8am the swap was off and running with not too much last-minute panic.

Helping out with set-up were Neil KY8H, Joe N8CN and son Julian, Dave NU8A, Ernie K8RCT, Joe KC8RLU, Jared KA8RMA, Steve KB8RDI and Lisa Weaver, Jodie KE8MJA, Ward N8WK, Mike KC8CLR, Joe W8TVT, Bob N8TNT, Bob W8RAK, Jon KC9ON and Bea Clements, and Bill WR8NY.

The Weavers (Steve and Lisa) once again completely saved everyone's lives with the provision of caffeine, soda, hot dogs and pastries. I am told that the concessions sales were good, and that it seemed everyone was pleased with the food and the last-minute-expanded dining area. Lisa and Steve, we simply cannot thank you enough for your continued service in this area. This is truly life-saving work!

Swap-N-Shop, Continued from Pg. 4

Door prizes awarded included two IWiSS Wire Crimpers for PowerPoles, a Coaxial Cable Tool Set, 2 sets of 20ea, 30A power poles, a NanoVNA, two NooElec Premium RTL-SDR bundles, two adjustable-temperature 60W soldering stations, two \$25 ARRL gift certificates and two \$50 ARRL gift certificates. Also a member of the club won the 50/50 drawing which was \$68!

Hope AA8SN reports that there were 10 applicants for Volunteer Examinations. All of them either earned an initial license or an upgrade. The results were four new technicians, 3 generals, and 3 extra class licensees. One person stopped in to send in a renewal on an expired license. VEs consisted of Hope AA8SN, Ken W8QKP, Mark KC8ZAP, and Byrdie AC8UM.

This year the club decided that all proceeds of sales at the CARC and TBARG tables would go to directly benefit the TBARG group. We are happy to report that almost all of the equipment donated for sale found a good home, and that TBARG took in nearly \$800.00 from the sale of it. We wish to thank all of you who donated or helped for your generosity and support of the club, and also of TBARG.

If you attended the swap this year we are asking that you complete a short survey regarding your experience. We would love to see your ideas and input and know how your experience was! Here is a link to the survey: <https://forms.gle/9LVfLB4zVBLhEn3SA>

If you would like to see some additional photos of the event, or contribute some yourself, visit the Cherryland website at <http://www.CherrylandARC.com> and click "Multimedia -> Pictures" on the menu.

The Take-Down crew this year was fabulous, and I completely lost track of who comprised it, but I know Christian K8RGB, Mike KC8CLR, Joe KC8RLU, Steve KB8RDI and Lisa, Jon KC9ON and Bea, Jodie KE8MJA, Randy KE8JWB, Neil KY8H, Jared KA8RMA, were all there in addition to some folks I think I spaced-out on. Sorry about that!

The swap turned out wonderfully, and I keep getting reports from attendees that it went very well. Myself, I had a wonderful time and I am already looking forward to next year.

Once again, thank you all for your participation—whether you helped or just attended. It was much appreciated!

73 de Joe N8CN



Cherryland Amateur Radio Club

Repeaters: **W8TCM/R**

⇒ **146.86-** (PL 114.8) Echolink, Yaesu
SystemFusion Capable.

(W8ZTB Memorial Repeater)

⇒ **442.50-** (PL 114.8) YSF Wires-X link
WM-CONNECT

(W8NGH Memorial Repeater)

Radio Nets:

⇒ **MESH NET:** Monday Evening Social
Hour Each Monday, 8pm 146.860
MHz (-) (PL 114.8)

⇒ **SMASH NET:** Sunday Morning Ama-
teur Social Hour Each Sunday, 9am
3.935 MHz

Check out the club website:

www.CherrylandARC.com

How To Join

CARC Annual Membership Application / Renewal form

Rates: Annual dues are \$24.00

(Family Membership, add \$2.00) (Discounted Student Membership \$5.00)

Submit to: **Ward Kuhn N8WK, CARC Treasurer**

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Callsign (if any): _____ License Class (if any): _____ ARRL Member (Y/N)

Email (we promise not to spam): _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Occupation: _____ Spouse: _____

To become a member of the CARC:

1. Fill out a membership form (above, or via email/website).
2. Submit dues with your form.

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

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

Cherryland Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 987
Traverse City, MI 49685-987

email@CherrylandARC.com

231.668.4223

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

