



What do you Think?

CARC has one fox hunt per year. Just as one tries it, and finds out some tricks, the hunt is over and we wait another year to try again.

What if, we had a monthly or quarterly Fox Hunt? How many people would come out.?

Proposal... Let's have a Fox Hunting Beginners Saturday to walk through basics, listen to the experience of those who have gone before us, and then a test run, where the fox location is known, and we use our training to zero in on the signal.

Then, how about intermediate fox hunts with improving skills, to reach a level where people are interested in this challenge because of the fun of the hunt?

Think about it. Send an email to president@cherrylandarc.com Would you hunt?



The Fox Den, Randy Wood, KE8JWB, Tom Olman, KE8CVM, Joe Novak, W8TVT the fox team pose with Jon Schumacher, N8UL, half of the winning team of Jon and Ernie Able, K8RCT. Photo by Ernie K8RCT

Fox found in the GT Commons

T-10 minutes and counting – “The Fox” was getting into position, having left the Salvation Army earlier. The first transmission was at 2:00 pm sharp. It was a low-level signal “This is W8TCM, The Fox” And with those words three teams of hunters took their first bearing. Two teams took bearings from Lafranier Road hilltop. One started from the Salvation Army parking lot. First angles measured, off to the second location to take a different bearing. Then plot bearings on a map to see where the lines intersect.

The hunting took a while, nearly an hour and half before the Fox was found. During that time, angles were taken every time a fox transmission occurred and as hunters got closer, the signal strength got louder, so the antennas had to be attenuated. Slowly, painstakingly the process was followed through the sunny afternoon.

This, Sunday, however would be different for two hams. Ernie, K8RCT and Jon, N8UL were the first to arrive at the fox location.



Ernie, K8RCT and Jon N8UL emerge victorious..

Brad, W8QPO and Pete, K8WQK found the fox shortly thereafter.

First-time hunter Scott, WX1J enjoyed the hunt so much, he continued to hunt without reaching the fox location.

Continued on Page 2



View from the fox's den

By Tom Olman, KE8CVM

We had a great time, hiding at the end of Elmwood Street next to The Grand Traverse Commons area.

We had comfortable chairs, tables and a plethora of radio equipment. We utilized a 2 meter whip antenna on an 8' mast secured in a tripod.

Randy, KE8JWB, was using his Yaesu FT-8100 as well as his Icom 706MKII. Joe, W8TVT and I, KE8CVM, utilized our Yaesu's FT60 and VX8 handhelds.

I had fun reading "ham radio trivia" on the air as Randy described our surroundings and airplanes flying overhead.

Joe, W8TVT, kept busy calling CQ and wondering if anyone was really searching for us. It hard to have more fun than being on the air, with fellow hams, on a sunny Sunday afternoon.

Congratulations to Ernie, K8RCT, and Jon, N8UL, for being the first hounds to find our secret location! Next year they become the foxes."



Jon N8UL and Ernie, K8RCT ready to go.



Pete, K8WQK, calm before the storm.



Jon N8UL and Brad W8QPO



Randy, KE8JWB, Joe, W8TVT, Tom, KE8CVM



This year's Fox frequency 146.550MHz



Scott, WX1J

Monday Evening Social Hour NET

An interview with Toby Way, KC8VSU



Toby Way, KC8VSU Net Control

By Scott, WX1J

Every Monday evening at 8:15 pm, Immediately following the **TBARG ARES/RACES Net**, Toby KC8VSU opens up the **Monday Evening Social Hour Net** with humor and relaxed energy.

The MESH net has been around for decades. Joe Novak, W8TVT was net control in the 90's. Joe said he can't remember how many years he ran the net, but recalled that the high-point for him was December 17, 2001, when he had sixteen direct check-ins from **nine Michigan Counties**:

Alcona
Benzie
Charlevoix
Chippewa
Crawford
Emmet
Grand Traverse
Kalkaska
Leelanau

"My hope is that two years from now, the net will have grown in size and popularity and everyone has a good time."

Over the years, the net has ebbed and flowed with the times. Life changes and life moves on.

About five years ago, then CARC President, Hope Francisco, AA8SN gave the challenge to Toby and Mike Cleary, W8VPC, to re-start the net and grow it.

"It's been a long-hard struggle", said Toby, "but in the last two years we have been solid, consistent and growing little by little."

"In fact this has been a very good year, with over 389 Check-Ins in the first 8 months of 2020", he continued.

Toby balances his Net Control, and Skywarn duties with his full-time dedication to the Kewadin Fire Department as a behind-the-scenes critical infrastructure effort that gives the department strength.

Before that Toby worked on several local farms. Toby got the crops in on time and at the fire-station, reduces the friction to make the emergency response teams flow with ease. These traits keep the MESH net alive and thriving.

"We keep the net loose, Typical of Toby's devotion to making the MESH net work, and but orderly and there are no politics or divisiveness. We just have a good time and are genuinely happy to speak with each other once a week," Toby explained.

2020 Check-ins	
JAN	40
FEB	41
MAR	57
APR	53
MAY	43
JUN	59
JUL	47
AUG	49
YTD	389

When asked what Toby feels is essential for a good net, he said; "Actually, I think our best responses come when we are relaxed, no hard rules and such, when we have fun, use humor and enjoy the exchange of ideas and thoughts."

Continued on Page 4

If you have not participated in any kind of net before, join the MESH net some Monday, and just say "I'm new here."

How does the net work?

Net control announces the pre-amble, describing the net and authorization to use the repeater and some announcements.

Then Net Control calls for Check-ins. Check in by stating your name and call-sign phonetically. You will be acknowledged by Net Control and the Net Control calls for the next check-in. Net Control will call your call-sign in the order in which you checked in. When called, you have up-to 3 minutes of air-time, then turn it back to net.

Regulars on the net are welcoming and eager to help new people join and feel comfortable. The MESH net is a great place to start- and a good way to make friends on the Radio.

Monday Night Nets



Cherryland Amateur Radio Club

8:00 TBARG - ARES/RACES Net
8:15 Monday Evening Social Hour Net

Cherryland Amateur Radio Club
W8TCM Repeater in Traverse City
Echolink on Node 824031 - W8TCM-R

JOIN Cherryland Amateur Radio Club and encourage your friends to join too.

Not yet a member of CARC?

You are invited to join the club and become as active as you wish in all of our activities, be able to vote on issues at our meetings and included in social events like the Christmas Party, Annual Picnic and General Club meetings with guest speakers, programs, donuts and coffee.

Project Nights are a good place to meet people, learn what others have done, are doing or share your activities.

You can be involved in Emergency Communication and just about anytime on HF and VHF nets in touch with other members.

CARC is an ARRL affiliated Club.

CARC fosters an environment where Hams hold a special place of honor and distinction in the community.

Mostly we have fun.

CARC Membership Application form

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

Nickname: _____

Callsign (if any): _____

Class (if any): _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Email (we promise not to spam): _____

ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Occupation: _____

Spouse (if applicable): _____

ARRL Member? (Y/N): _____

- Membership Rates
- \$24 Single Membership
(+\$2 Family Membership (same residence))
 - \$5 Student Discounted Membership

Please complete the above and mail along with your payment to:

Ward Kuhn N8WK
PO Box 987
Traverse City, MI 49685

YL News & Views

By Jodie Deline, K8NZB



Growing up, my parents encouraged me to learn what I could. Of course like most kids life distracted me from my academics and when my interest in sciences and academics returned, I felt I was too old to learn more. An old boyfriend of mine told me about **ham radio** and how I could get signals in areas that cell phones wouldn't get reception, like in the mountains. So I bought the book form ARRL. Most of what I tried to learn didn't make sense. It was like I was trying to learn an alien language. I put the book down and figured I just couldn't do it.

After I moved back to Michigan I found the book in a box and figured I would try again and it was still like I was trying to read a book from the planet Zularn.

This time I bought *Ham Radio for Dummies*. It didn't help. I put the books back on the shelf. Then Hurricane Harvey hit in Texas and all I wanted to do was help and was told by my friends that a person needs training and skills. Who would have thought they won't let you just show up. I didn't drive down but wanted to.

When Hurricane Michael landed in Florida, again, I wanted to help but hadn't the required skills by then or time off so I started trying to figure out what I could do.

Reintroduction to Ham Radio.

I determined that I could relay messages, help get word out to people that loved ones are ok, and Skywarn for weather watching. I ordered the new book, studied and passed my license test.

"I started this path to get skills to help with emergencies and now I have learned skills for almost every aspect of my life."

I never would have thought that my world would change so much and I would fall in love with a hobby as much as I have with my new world of ham radio. I have met some amazing people, have some great mentors, and made some of what I hope to be life long friends. I started this path to get skills to help with emergencies and now I have learned skills that I have been able to transfer to many other parts of my life.

I am slowly becoming more organized, more educated, and learning more about myself.

Through my new wonderful hobby I have gotten to meet so many people and reconnected with a few. I am learning the skills to be able to help my community if and when we are needed and I am so grateful for everyone I am learning from and those I am becoming friends and have become friends with. The new experiences I have had and am having with Ham radio, are some of the best I have had in recent years.

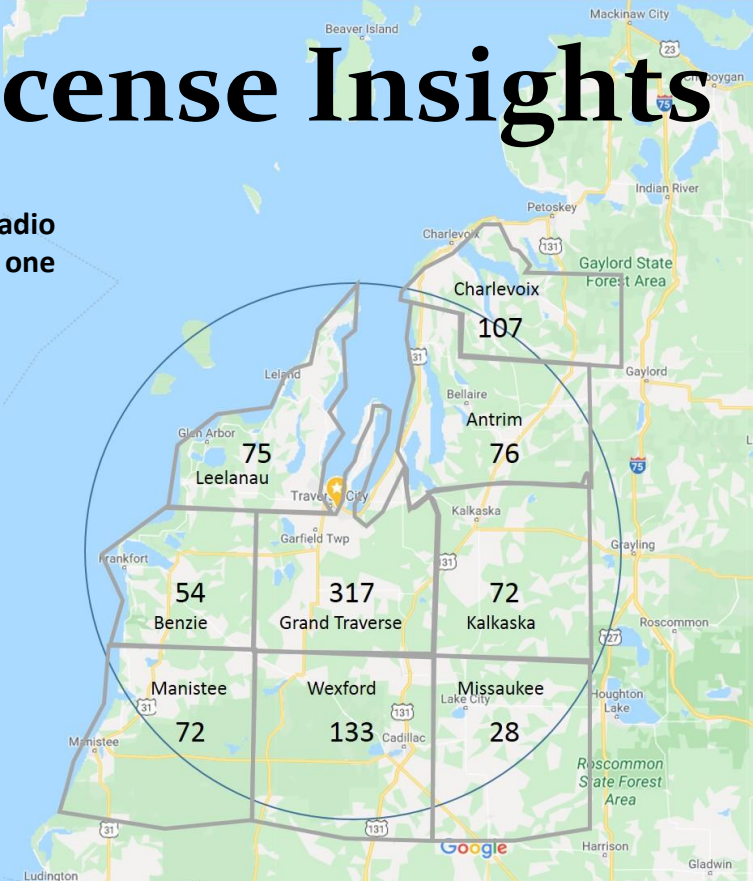
When the excitement is gone, its time for something knew. That's what I have always felt. Every day at work I have excitement for what's new and I feel that what way every time I pick up the mic and hop on the radio.

There is no limit to what I have been learning. It is so vast. It is almost like an alien world with so much new terrain to explore and a new language that is only as hard as my brain made it. So far it has been worth every worry and self doubt in learning each of the new things I have learned. Because that moment of new discovery, every time something new clicks, its one of the most rewarding moments!

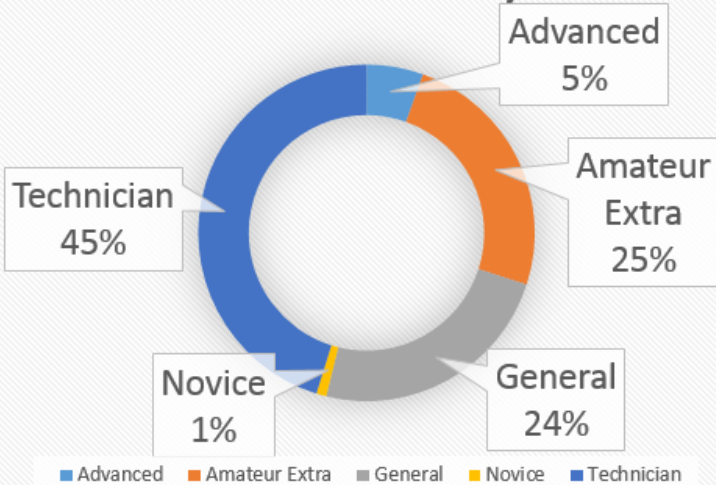
Area Ham License Insights

Statistics show the number of licensed amateur radio operators as of August 2020 for counties within a one hour drive range of Traverse City.

Counties	Male	Female	Total
Missaukee	27	1	28
Benzie	47	7	54
Manistee	59	13	72
Kalkaska	62	10	72
Leelanau County	66	9	75
Antrim	68	8	76
Charlevoix	92	15	107
Wexford	105	28	133
Grand Traverse	261	56	317
Grand Total	787	147	934



Total Area Licensees by Class



The data presented illustrates the characteristics of the licensed ham community in our area. They were gathered August, from FCC records housed by a number of sources.

Some insights that we can consider are:

- **The large number of 147 female licensees is still only 15.7% of the total.**
- **422 or 45% of licensees hold Technician licenses.**
- **48% of licensees hold General or Extra licenses.**

Although the records accessed for this review do not provide licensee's age, I think it's appropriate to ask how can we encourage young people to become active in ham radio.

How can we encourage more women to participate in Amateur Radio and local events?

The license mix could indicate a ripe opportunity for mentoring and learning.

Territory	Total Licensees
Total USA	760,104
Total Michigan	20,974
MI % of USA	2.80%
Northwest Michigan	934
NWMI % of MI	4.50%



FALL CONTEST SEASON IS HERE!

Reprinted Articles from ARRL.com

Contesting is one of the great activities of Amateur Radio. It boosts your technical knowledge and improves your radio operating skills—helping make you a better Amateur. [Check out the 19 annual contests sponsored by ARRL.](#)

NEW HF OPERATORS -- THINGS TO DO

The fall contest season is nearly upon us! Over the next few weeks there are smaller-contest opportunities to try modes that might be new to you, or contest formats that are enjoyable. For those that enjoy modern digital contests, RTTY could be very appealing. Compared to today's FT4/FT8, contacts can proceed at a faster rate, but signals in general have to be stronger, and errors can occur in the decoding, since there's no inherent error correction. If you're already set up for FT4/FT8, you're probably also set up for RTTY. Check out RTTYContesting.com's [Getting Started on RTTY](#) page, and for even more information, review [past presentations on Contest University's website](#). You'll probably also want to study up on the [use of a logging program, such as N1MM Logger+, in conjunction with a RTTY program](#).

The CQ WW Radio contest formats can be more than vestigial signal report and running, running, running. For example, Sprint contests have an explicit "must QSY" rule built in. You can read more about the Spring format at [N6TR's Sprint Survival webpage](#), and then join in on CW on most Thursday evenings for the [NCCC practice Sprints](#). The semi-yearly North American Sprint, CW, is the 0000-0400z September 13. See this issue's conversation section for additional impetus to try this one!

The [WAE contests](#) have a "feature" that can add a lot of points - QTCs. Information from previous contacts are exchanged between stations to effectively increase scores. Many logging programs handle the housekeeping details for the sending, but you as an operator will have to correctly copy and enter QTC information into your logging program. Secret hint: some logging programs will screen-read RTTY and enter the QTC information, but the operator must still determine that the information being decoded is correct. The WAE SSB contest is on the weekend of September 12, why not give it a go?

<http://www.arrl.org/contests>

I wanted to get this info out to all of our club members. It's a good article promoting HF contesting.

The contesting season really begins in September and it might be fun for new HF operators to try their hand at contesting.

I got the bug a few years ago and now it is one of my most enjoyable ham activities.

I started off slow and careful but as I got some experience the competitive spirit has taken over. In one of last year's RTTY contests I had the high score for the 8th call area!

I'm hoping that some of our other HF operators will give it a try.

73,

Ernie, K8RCT

Club Activities Update for September

Don't Miss the **September 22 General Club Meeting** at 7:00 pm In-Person, at the Traverse City Civic Center Pavilion.

Please attend, there is important voting that needs to take place.

CARC continues activity in September.

On air nets start every Sunday with the **Sunday Morning Amateur Social Hour** net at 9:00 am on 3.935 MHz.

Monday evenings feature the **TBARG ARES/RACES Emergency Preparedness Net** at 8:00 pm, followed immediately by the **CARC Monday Evening Social Hour Net**.

Both Monday nets are on the **146.86 MHz repeater W8TCM**, in Traverse City with a minus offset and 114.8 Hz PL tone. You can join the MESH net via Echolink. W8TCM-R, node 824031

Tuesday evening is Project Night. The September schedule promises to be a very interesting series of Project Nights.

Join the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club at 7:00 pm.

You do not need to be a member of the Club to join the meetings.

The Zoom Meeting ID is: 271957716.

September 2020 Scheduled Kick-off Speakers

Tuesday	Topic	Presenter
Sept 1	CARC Board Meeting – Civic Center Pavilion	
Sept 8	“DX-pedition to Miquelon Island for the 2005 CQWW CW Contest & 8000 contacts”	Greg, K8GL
Sept 15	“The Double Inverted Delta Slot Antenna” - Preview of potential future QST article.	John, W6NBC
Sept 22	General Club “In-Person” Club Meeting – No Zoom Meeting Tonight	
Sept 29	TBARG – “DMR Network Update for Emergency Communication”	Glen, K8SGZ

October will be interesting as well.

Be sure to save the date **October 27**, when we have a presentation booked by **Clint Bradford, K6LCS** on **“How to Work Satellites with your Handheld.”** This presentation will be on a separate system, so you need to register in order to receive the meeting ID.

[To Register for Clint's Presentation, Click Here.](#)

The General Club Meeting will be outdoors, so please plan for the weather and for your personal and fellow club-members protection.



Mark your calendar for
our first In-Person
General Club Member
Meeting since February

Tuesday
September 22
7:00 PM

This meeting is important to
the club because we need to
have a quorum of members
present to vote on changes to
the by-laws and to approve
Board member appointments.

Please plan to attend.

The meeting will be outdoors
and allow for social distancing.
Masks are a good idea, and
most members have been
wearing them during other in-
person meetings such as the
summer picnic, fox hunt and
board meetings.

The meeting will be at the Civic
Center Pavilion in Traverse City
unless between now and then, a
location change is required, in
which case you will be notified
by email and social media posts
on our website, facebook,
Instagram and twitter.

Coming Highlights

September

Sep 1, CARC Board Meeting

Sep 2, Skywarn Net

Sep 8, 15, 29 Project Night
Zoom 271957716

Sep 22, General Club Meeting
in-person at Civic Center
Pavilion Important Voting
Meeting.

October

Oct 7, Skywarn Net

Oct 27, Clint K6LCS a renown
expert on satellite work, will
present: **"How to Work
Amateur Satellites with Your
HT"**

This will be a presentation to
CARC from Clint's home in
California. There will be AMSAT
guests online as well. This
presentation is open to all,
Invite your friends.

[Click Here to Register for this
free event.](#)

November

Nov 7, VE Exam Testing in TC.

The first Wednesday of each
month is the SKYWARN Training
net. It is on the W8TCM
repeater in Traverse City and is
operated by the Traverse Bay
Area Radio Group, ARES/RACES
Emergency Preparedness
organization.

This net is to help prepare hams
on the type of activity,
communication protocols and
information that would be
necessary in the event of a
actual emergency.

To find out more, go to:
<https://www.weather.gov/SKYWARN>
For information and free
class schedules.



CHERRYLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

President

Ernie K8RCT

Vice President

Glen K8SGZ

Treasurer

Ward N8WK

Recording Secretary

Hope AA8SN

Communicating Secretary

Joe KC8RLU

Cherry Juice Editor

Joe N8CN

Cherryland Amateur Radio Club

<http://cherrylandarc.com/>

Traverse City, MI 49686