volume - ISSUE **47- 5**

October, 2020

Cherry Juice

Membership Publication of the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club

Upcoming Events

October

Project Night - Tuesday Oct 12 & 20 at 7:00pm ZOOM Meeting ID: 271957716

Oct 24 - VE Testing Session

1:00 pm at New Approaches Center 5123 N Royal Dr. Traverse City, MI 49684

Info: Hope, AA8SN@arrl.net

Oct 27 General Club Meeting 7:00 PM

Oct 27 Work Satellites Presentation at Club Meeting and on ZOOM (Please Register)

Oct 31 - Field Demo Bring your radio- Let's work Satellites live.-See pg 5



Joe, KC8RLU makes a great point at the Board Meeting.

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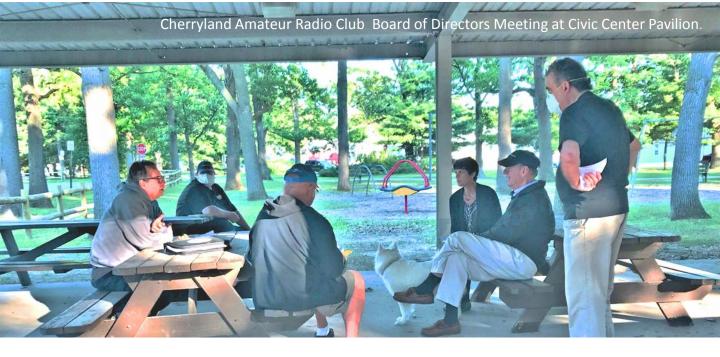
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CARC Returns to In-Person Meetings

The CARC Board of Directors began in-person meetings on June 2, in order to enact club business, plan **Field Day** and the **annual picnic**. Both of those were also in Person, ARRL Field Day was on June 28-29 and the Picnic at Sayler Park a month later, on July 28. In August we held the Annual Fox Hunt, in person and in each of those events, members kept socially distanced and masked when not able to socially distance.

On the success of those interactions, the Club held the first **General Club Member** meeting on September 22 inperson, in order to pass two pieces of business that require a majority of member votes. First, to propose and read changes to the bylaws, section VI, that allow members and the board of directors to vote on-line, should Covid-19 or other circumstances keep the club from meeting in-person. The second point was a vote necessary to fill a vacant board seat.





The change to the by-laws was published in the Newsletter on September 20 and read at the Club meeting. In order to for the change to be adopted, the club must meet again on October 27th to vote on the proposed change.

The second order of business in September was a vote to fill one vacant seat on the board of directors. That vote was taken to approve Scott Pyles, WX1J, to represent the seat until it's term ends in 2020. Scott has been volunteering his time to help Joe Erlewein, N8CN complete email and social media notices and publishing the Cherry Juice newsletter.

As we look to the months ahead, we have been lucky to be able to be outdoors this Summer. Fall should be tolerable as well, but we just don't know what the Winter meetings will look like.

According to current State regulations in place, Northern

Michigan is able to gather in small groups, however, many of the venues recognize that while it is possible, it may not be desirable. Working with the abundance of caution that has kept Traverse City one of the safer places to be, we will continue to exercise caution and meet as needed in the safest places and ways possible.

The club will continue to be active.

We plan that **online meetings** will continue to supplement in-person meetings as an alternative way to participate. We are radio people, so the **SMASH**, **MESH**, **TBARG**, **UP NORTH SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE**, and other Nets are a good way to keep in touch as well.



Neil, KY8H, Hope, AA8SN, Robert, W8RAK at the Club Meeting Sept 22, 2020.



Socially responsible Annual Picnic, Sayler Park

Be sure to read the column in this issue starting page 4, on the interesting Project Night series of presentations we have had this summer.

In the near future, you may see additional initiatives to reach out to people who want to get their ham license or upgrade the one they have and to help newly licensed hams set up radios, antennas and get on-the-air in a variety of modes.

Cherryland ARC is Radio-Active; On Air, On Line, and In Person.



Message from the President

Ernie Abel, K8RCT

So, what are we going to do about it?

I'm talking about what are we going to do about the majority of licensed hams in our area are Technician Class while the majority of active hams are higher class licenses. Houston, we have a problem!

The CARC board is aware that we have to do something to include all our new (and old) Technician class hams in our activities and help them to upgrade to General or higher class. To achieve this goal, I have appointed a committee of Glen Johnson, K8SGZ, Scott Pyles, WX1J and myself to come up with a plan to reach out to the Technician class hams and help them become active in the club and hopefully upgrade their license.

While the Covid-19 situation and vacations have hampered our initial meeting we have discussed several **ideas** with the Board.

These Ideas are:

1: Conducting Technician and General licensing classes followed by the FCC exams.

This could be started this fall and early winter. We would be looking for other hams to assist in teaching the classes (don't panic, we have the teaching materials).

2: Inviting a welcome back to ham radio gathering.

This might include a program on what activities the CARC has been involved in this year. Perhaps a presentation on training activities.

3: Tech Tuesdays.

One Tuesday a month we would hold a hands-on training event. Perhaps an evenings of bring your HT to class. We could show new hams how to program their radios, upload current repeater frequencies, and have the new hams actually get on the air (we all know about "mic-fright". Also we could get them involved in our local VHF nets.

4: A Saturday workshop for new hams.

This workshop would focus on providing a time to get together for discussion and practice transmitting and having conversations on the radio.



So that is what we are thinking about right now. We welcome your feedback and ideas on how to make this all happen.

We are a vibrant, active club so let's welcome in new members. So, let us know your thoughts and ideas! 73,

Ernie, K8RCT

president@cherrylandarc.com



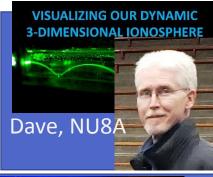
Guest speakers give world-class talks

September saw three great presentations by experts with global credentials that were both informative and entertaining. On September 8, Glen Surma, K8GL discussed his DX trip to Miquelon Island, off the North East coast of Canada.

On September 15 we were spellbound by John Portune, W6NBC, well known for more than 24 published articles in *QST* on a variety of antennas and other subjects, and author of *Slot Antennas for Ham Radio*, John unveiled his latest – Dual Inverted Slot Antenna.

In August Alan, W2AEW gave a fascinating talk on VNA's and Nano-VNA's that are gaining popularity to measure characteristics of antennas, feedlines and more in Ham projects. Also in August, Glen WB4KTF beamed in from Austin TX, to inspire us with his experience building his top eleven projects built in 2020.







John, W6NBC



Greg, K8GL



Club Meeting Presentation will take us into space



Be sure to save the date October 27, presentation 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.

REGISTER

Clint, K6LCS

Earlier in the Spring **Dave, NU8A** illustrated how the Ionosphere really behaves to bend signals.

On October 27 during our General Member Meeting, we step into space. The meeting will start with club business meeting in person, then at 7:30pm switch to a live presentation from California by Clint, K6LCS on how you can work satellites using your hand-held transceiver.

If you have registered, you will receive log-in information and from your own home, you will join the presentation live at the time the Club joins.

Clint has made hundreds of presentations on this subject around the country and has agreed to present this how-to and what to expect information giving you all you need to be able to work satellites on your own. Including perhaps, the newest cross-band repeater in space is in service now on the International Space Station.

Don't forget to register for this free event so you will receive the log-in credentials for October 27, 7:30pm Eastern Time Zone.

Working Low Earth Orbit, LEO satellites are easy and fun.



Fun-Cube- AO-91

CARC Follow-up Event

Saturday October 31 will be a hands-on live demonstration and help to get you started working satellites.

The exact times will be announced at the Club Meeting, as it depends on the satellite pass schedule for the three main LEO Satellites.

Just bring your hand-held, paper, pencil and clip-board.

The most likely location will be the Open Space in Traverse City.

For questions about this live inperson session, contact Scott WX1J at wx1J@arrl.net, or

248-495-3665

Satellite Glossary

Azimuth	Flat rotation angles of the compass		
Elevation	Vertical Angles from the Horizon		
AOS	Acquisition of Satellite contact		
LOS	Loss of Satellite contact		
Doppler Shift	Frequency shift caused by satellite movement toward or away from the earth station		
AZ/EL	Antenna pointing description to track a satellite		
Uplink	Earth station transmitting to the satellite		
Downlink	Earth station receiving signal from the satellite		
Birds	Satellites		



YL News & Views

By Jodie Deline, K8NZB

Testing, 1, 2, Testing!

A shared experience to which we can all relate, and encourage others.

One of the most nerve racking test I have ever taken was my Tech test. I was more nervous than I was when I took my ACT or SAT tests. Why was I so nervous? There were two reasons. Two simple little reasons that made me so nervous for my first test, my tech test.

The first reason I was so nervous was simply the undo pressure I put on my-self. All of my friends, all of my family, everyone I told when I was going to take my test. I was so afraid of disappointing everyone who believed in me I freaked myself out. It's amazing how easily you can get into your own head. I knew everyone was rooting for me and letting them down messed with my mind.

The second reason I was so nervous was the morning of the test I decided that I needed to cram a little more. I was taking practice tests on my kindle when I realized I had been taking practice tests from the previous question pool. How can I be so dorky as to not pay attention to which test pool I had

been studying for the last three months.

Then the test session was here. Pencils; check, calculator; check, scrap paper; check. I walked in to the room sat down and was so far from ready to take the test but I did it anyway. It's only a couple questions from each sections.

Some tips I learned. First, the examiners want you to pass the test. Most of the VEs allow you to take as much time as you need. Second, read each question and answer the ones you are most sure of first. Then go back and answer the ones you skipped. Take lots of time. Then take a deep breath and check your answers. Finally, make sure you check your answers and make sure you answered test question #1 on answer sheet #1.

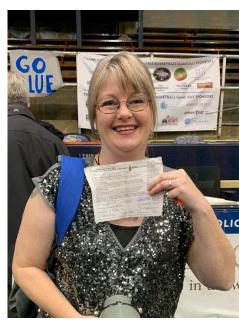
The most wonderful thing is passing. I passed my tech on the first try and I. Yelled "YES!!!!" It was wonderful.

I did try for my general and I failed miserably.

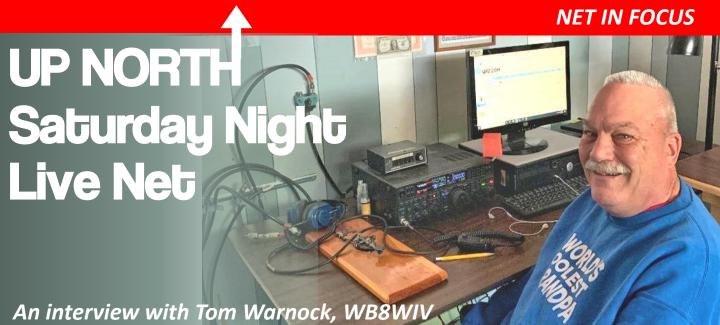
It took three more tries. Three test days, four total tests to pass my general, but I passed.

That's probably the most important thing to remember. It does not say how many times you had to take the test to pass. It does not make you any less of a ham if you took the test once or 100 times. It took me a year or so to learn that lesson but it is a valuable lesson.

You can do it too!



Jodie, KE8MJA, with upgrade certificate at the Hamfest in February. Now K8NZB



By Scott, WX1J

Bill, W8FFG, had an idea several years back to start a net that would become a solid classic.

The path from that start to today, like any journey, has taken a few turns along the way. **Up North Saturday Night Live net** filled a need for a good weekly net in the Cadillac region, that was accessible for people who worked, had families or obligations into the early evening.

Saturday was a bit more manageable for those folks, as was the original time-slot of 9:00 pm. That day and time had its plusses and minuses. Those who did attend were steady and that carried the net. But the group was smaller than hoped and grew slowly.

Then about 2 years ago, Bill accepted an offer of a job in Lansing. As time went on, Bill's role as Net control operator became more difficult due to travel distance and his work.

At that time, the net control baton was passed to Tom, WB8WIV, to assume the duties that keep this great idea alive and thriving. Tom moved the net to 8:00 pm and started promoting it to Traverse City and surrounding hams on the Cherryland ARC's **MESH net** and other nets to draw attention and build participation.

"...and they each have unique and fascinating experiences that really allow us to have great conversations."

Up North Saturday Night Live net is on the W8QPO repeater in Sherman, on the Northern edge of Wexaukee County, about halfway between TC and Cadillac on 147.100 MHz, +0.6 KHz offset and a PL tone of 114.8 Hz. Tom opens the net at 8:00pm with check-ins and announcements, after which participants go two rounds, leading to interesting exchanges.

The participants on the net have varied backgrounds and diverse experiences. Some of the regulars include Larry, WN8P, an electrical engineer by trade. Tom, WB8WIV who has operated from Europe as DJOFT in Germany, and G5BIF in the UK. Tom substitute teaches in the community.

Lyn, WA8UPB, is a journalist and correspondent with international experience. Lyn operated for some years from Singapore and from the Middle East, including Irag.

"There are so many more hams that join us", explained Tom, "and they each have unique and fascinating experiences that really allow us to have great conversations." Everyone learns something about operating skills, antenna systems, technical topics or whatever else sparks an interactive discussion.



EMERSEACY COMMUNICATIONS

Your Traverse Bay Area Radio Group update for October is that the **Skywarn training** nights on the first Wednesday of the month have been suspended until they resumes in the summer storm season of 2021.

However, Skywarn may be activated at anytime if deemed necessary due to any weather emergency. If Skywarn is activated for any reason, please check-in on 146.86 repeater and offer observations from your location so that the overall area real situation can be relayed to the National Weather Service. The NWS coordinates resources to assist the areas most in need. For further information – click here for NWS Site.

CARC Membership Application Form				
Last Name:	First Name		Nickname:	
Callsign (if any):	Class (if any):		-	
Street	City:		State:	
Email:	(we won't spam)	Zip:	
Home Phone:	Work Phone:		-	
Occupation:	Spouse :		_(if applicable)	
ARRL Member?: Yes / No				
Please complete the form al	oove and mail along with yo	ur payment to:		
Ward Kuhn, N8WK	М	embership Plans		
P.O. Box 937	Sir	ngle Membership	\$ 24.00	
Traverse City, MI 49685	Fa	mily Membership	\$ 26.00 *	
	St	udent Membership	\$ 5.00	
		All members live in th	<u>e same household</u>	

Open Call for Papers

Do you have an Idea? A Story? Or did you ever want to write an article about your radio experience? Maybe it's just a question at this point. Or perhaps it's a project you built? Or an Antenna you designed? Or an interesting installation you made. - perhaps it's an observation you have about ham radio.

This could be your opportunity.

The Staff of Cherry Juice want to hear, read and work with you to help you step into this possibility so that other hams around the Northern Michigan and beyond can benefit from your perspective and your experience.

Start small, start simple, and expand as you go. We're here to help you and to help make your article or column something you will look back on and share with your family with pride.

Think of the possibilities.

Discuss your thoughts with Scott, at WX1J@arrl.net

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