



## In This Issue

W8SGR &lt;SK&gt; Pg 1

Oct Club Meeting Pg 3

VE Exam News Pg 4

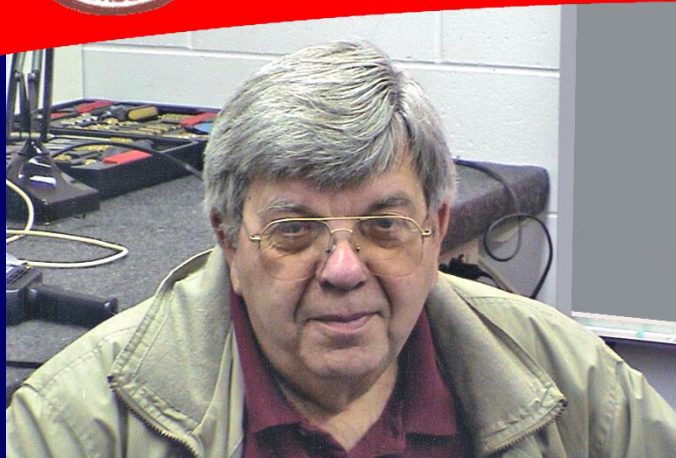
YL News &amp; Views Pg 5

Net in Focus Pg 6

N8DNX &lt;SK&gt; Pg 8

Workshop Pg 9

TBARG Pg 10



## Celebrating The Life

By Joe Erlewein, N8CN

It is with deep personal regret that I convey to you the loss of a long-time member, champion, and leader of the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club. Chuck Mellberg, W8SGR passed away early October 26th at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, MI. He was 87.

Chuck had been actively involved with the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club dating back into the 80s. He has served as president for several terms over the years, and has held other positions as well. He had remained an active board member through 2019.

Chuck was the embodiment and definition of an "Elmer", and was to countless amateur operators

throughout the area over many years. He spear-headed projects such as the agreement, concept and construction of the entire

radio building at Camp Greilick, Club stations at both the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army, and the Field Day site for many years at Kiessel Farms.

Chuck orchestrated club events such as communications for area foot, bicycle, and ski races, Emergency Service drills, and participation with area agencies, fox hunts, club contests, technical workshops and programs, and club activities like Lighthouses On The Air. Chuck also went on several "Ham Bike Outings" over the years with other CARC members such as Joe W8TVT. Around the year 2000 they had been on a few different rides such as around Leelanau County and also the Upper Peninsula. Chuck was a technical guru and "subject matter expert" with respect to Field

(continued on page 2)



## Breaking News

**Chuck, W8SGR <SK>**  
Page 1

**Chuck, N8DNX <SK>**  
Page 8

**Special Net in Focus**  
features the **W8IRA**  
**repeater network.**  
Page 6

**CARC begins new**  
initiative to help  
new hams get on  
the air. See  
**workshops** on  
page 9



# Chuck, W8SGR <SK>

(continued from page 1)

Day and Repeater installations. Chuck was able to broker partnerships with local radio and TV stations as well as local land and business owners, resulting in promotion of the club, resources for club activities and events, and the location for the club's two repeater systems. Chuck also brokered agreements for other area repeaters and radio stations throughout the area.

A friend to any newcomer on the airwaves. and to club events in-person, Chuck was the "First Contact" for countless amateurs. Chuck loved to include people in all sorts of activities. Even if that activity was meeting for coffee at J&S, the Pie Company, or Big Boy and talking about radio... or really anything else!

In 1993, the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club lost a club member who was a similar "driving force" not only for the club but also for the entire community. The loss of Bill Martinek, W8JUY was felt by many. The club, this year, created a "Bill Martinek, W8JUY Memorial Ham Of The Year" award. This award has been given to a Cherryland ARC member each year, to a club member in recognition of going "above and beyond" with contributions and actions that help both the Cherryland ARC and the community. A unanimous vote of the 53 members present was that the first Ham Of The Year recognized should be Chuck Mellberg, W8SGR. Chuck would be recognized and honored not once - but twice! He received the award again in 2005.

Chuck is preceded in death by his Parents, wife Catherine and sister Kaye. He is survived by son, Bradley, W8QPO.



The Bennett-Barz Funeral Home in Kaleva, ([www.bennett-barzfuneralhome.com](http://www.bennett-barzfuneralhome.com)), is in charge of arrangements. Services will be planned at a later date, perhaps spring, as family arranges.



# October Club Meeting

In-person meeting passes by-laws change, then off to space.

## Club general member meeting passed change to by-laws

The October member meeting was held at Glen Johnson, K8SGZ's office on 5123 N. Royal Road. Masks and 2 Meter spacing between attendees was maintained by all members who attended.

The main order of business was to vote on the by-laws change proposed in August, read aloud at the September club meeting. The final step was this vote.

The resolution passed and the by-law are now changed to allow voting via teleconference or zoom meetings. This change will allow the club to function during the coming months, should restrictions or circumstances not allow us to meet in-person.

Other business conducted at the meeting included an update by Ernie, K8RCT, on the decision to continue developing the New-Ham workshops as a way to bring more hams into the community and on-the-air. Additionally Ernie announced that the Club would begin offering a

Technician license classes after the first of the year. The course material will follow the ARRL material and be presented over approximately 10 weeks of study.

## Presentation at the meeting showed how to make satellite contacts

On the big-screen at the meeting, and on Zoom, **Clint Bradford, K6LCS**, a well-known expert on amateur satellites, presented *"how to work satellites with your handheld radio"*. This presentation was sponsored by **Cherryland Amateur Radio Club**.

The original plan was to have approximately 45 other hams from around the country, one in the UK and one in Italy, join that zoom presentation.

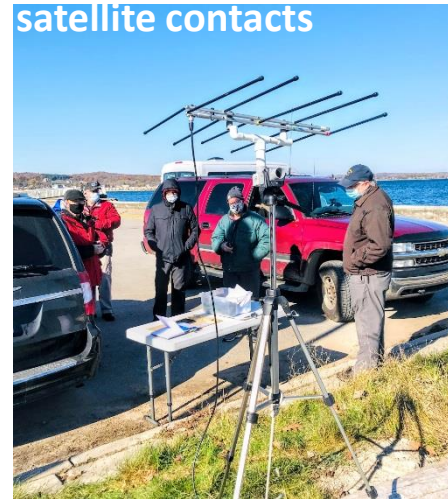


Clint Bradford, K6LCS

An unexpected technical glitch prevented those not at the meeting from joining. Fortunately, the presentation was recorded and Clint has granted us permission to replay that presentation for those registered and CARC club members only.

This presentation will be **replayed in Zoom meetings on November 10 at 7pm**. The link will be our ***Project Night*** link. So if you missed it - here's your chance.

## Hands-on Workshop demonstration made satellite contacts



KC8BQN, KA8HYE, K8WPE, KE8ALN, KE8 OUM, K8SGZ, NS8K, WX1J

As a follow-up to the K6LCS presentation at the club meeting, CARC organized a live demonstration of working satellites with hand-held radios at the Open Space in Traverse City. Seven hams attended the workshop under blue skies. We reviewed handouts regarding Doppler shift, frequency banks and general techniques.

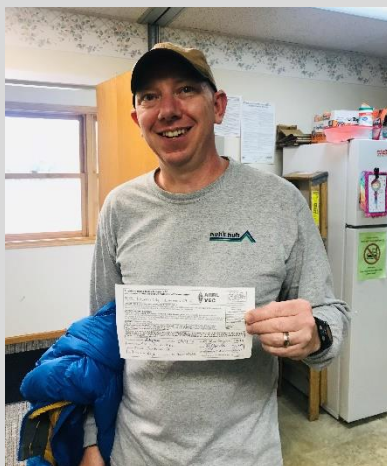
Everyone heard AO-91 on their hand-helds. [Joe N8CN also worked the satellite and made several contacts.](#) AO-92 has battery issues, and was not operational. **We'll do this again.**



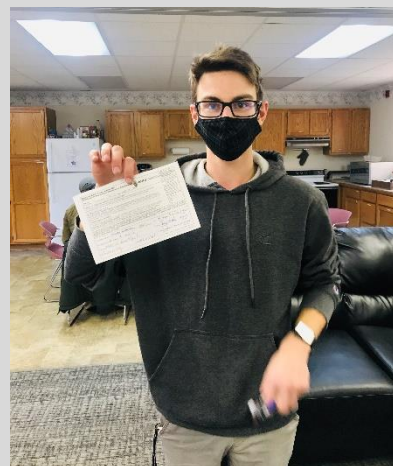
# Eight pass VE exams

October 24, VE exams were held at the New Approaches Center on Royal road in Traverse City. **Hope, AA8SN, ARRL Liaison, Ken W8QKP and Dave K8WPE** administered the tests.

Congratulations to all eight, five of whom entered the ranks of licensed amateur radio operators for the first time earning their Technician licenses. Three hams upgraded to General.



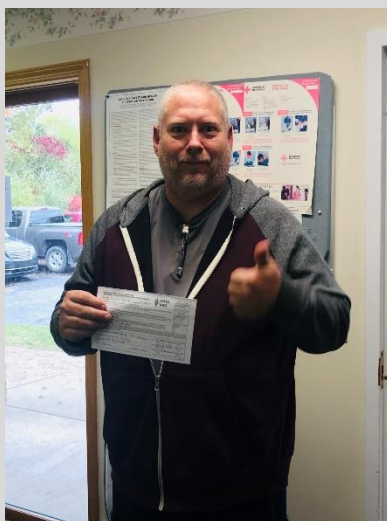
Anton Jackson, KE8PFO



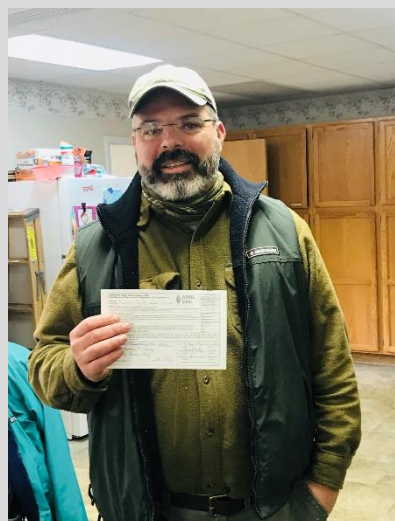
Drake Halbich



Dave, K8WPE, Hope, AA8SN, Ken, W8QKP



Dick Dejong



Matthew Emery



Hough Kimberland, KE8MKC



Lee and Jacob Ballard



Steve Lajoice, KE8BQS



# YL News & Views

By Jodie Deline, K8NZB



## Help!?!?!?!?

**There is always someone eager to help you learn**

It is so tempting to just go out on our own and to try to work through a problem. It's easy to say I got this, I can do this, no worries. Sometimes our own egos get in our way, and in the end it can discourage us from something we really enjoy.

One of the amazing things about the hobby of being a ham radio operator is how awesome everyone is. I'm so blessed, and I appreciate being able to join the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club and have a really awesome ham radio support group.

Being new to the Hobby, you can't know everything. It's so easy to get overwhelmed when looking at the hundreds of different radios, the hundreds of different modes of communication, antennas, software, and gadgets that go along with the hobby. I've learned that the best things that I can do is to ask others for help. To ask others to show me something that I just don't understand.

There are hundreds a **YouTube** channels For ham radio.

Sometimes they're wonderful and very easy to understand and sometimes they are so technical that even someone with an extra class license can't understand what they're saying. That's why asking for help is so nice even if it's just going online and asking For directions.

I recently had a wonderful opportunity to meet with two people, whom I consider Elmer's to help me navigate through the world of DMR. I'm still a little lost but I am light years ahead of where I was at the beginning of

October, thanks to just having the courage to reach out and ask for help.

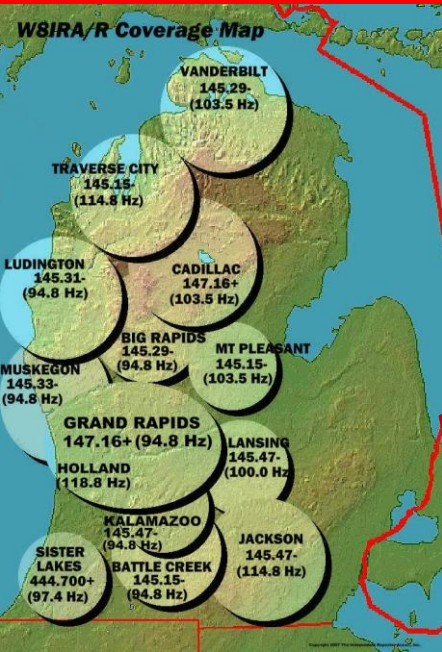
Whether you're in the Hobby for the last 75 years or your brand new to it there's always something to learn there's always something to and some wisdom to share. I have even been able to help impart some knowledge to others, and it was so nice to be able to give back with all the help that I have received.

**Never be afraid to ask for help.**



MMDVM Hotspot with Raspberry PI Zero and 433MHz antenna

## W8IRA Noontime Roundup Net & More



**Traverse City Link**  
145.150 (-) PL 114.8 Hz

**Cadillac Link**  
147.160 (+) PL 103.5 Hz

**Vanderbilt/Gaylord**  
145.29 (-) PL 103.5 Hz

The IRA board members donate their time to manage the financial and technical matters operating this radio-based system.



Tom Behler, KB8TYJ

Any licensed ham can call or respond to calls on the network and talk to people anywhere in the network. In addition, the IRA system is very active with nets that are both fun and practical.



Ryan Lughermo, KB8RCR

**The Independent Repeater Association, Inc. (IRA)**, is a network of two-meter repeaters that covers the state from Vanderbilt in the North to Sister Lakes, Battle Creek and Jackson in the South. The repeaters overlap, providing linked communication all along the central and Western coast of Michigan.

The IRA was incorporated in Michigan in 1979 as a non-profit corporation to own, operate and manage a two-meter repeater network. The idea was to focus solely on repeater operation and not complicate things with other ham activities.



Greg Conlon, KE8GC,  
Michele Conlon, KE8IML

### On the W8IRA Link System

NET	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
IRA Michigan Noon Time Roundup Net	12:00 N		12:00 N		12:00 N	
Michigan VHF Traffic Net	9:00 PM		9:00 PM		9:00 PM	
IRA After Work/Dinner Net		6:00 PM				6:00 PM
Insomniac Net					3:00 AM	
Amateur Radio News Line		12:00 N				
ARRL News				12:00 N		



The **Noontime Round-up** and **After-work/Dinner nets** are structured and typically have a trivia question or a topic for comment. The net control operators are efficient and friendly. Their comradery with regulars and new check-ins is refreshing.

The **Insomniac net** is less formal and free flowing. A variety of topics are often covered in a single net session, and the nets are often known to last over two hours.

The **Michigan VHF Traffic** net is a good source of training on message handling where you can hear examples of this important skill and can improve your ability as well.

The **Amateur Radio Newline** program and **ARRL News** are offered to keep listeners updated on important news of Ham Radio interests.

**Listen to the Traverse City link starting at noon** on Monday, Wednesday or Friday. Also, listen to **the After Work/Dinner Net** on Tuesday and Thursday. They are active with check-ins from all over the state both on the radio and a few participate via Echolink. Additionally, some check ins are on Allstar from the Lapeer repeater.

When checking in, give your call sign clearly, your name and location or the repeater location you are using.

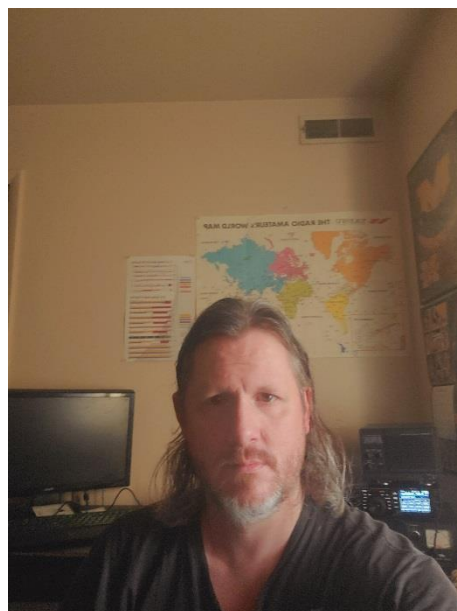
We look forward to hearing you.



Rick Fyan, KE8IKT



Justin Wolters, N8FCC  
Grand Valley State University ARC.



Steven Bishop, KD8MEY



Doug Verduin, KD8SLS

## The IRA vision is to provide:

- Dependable communications
- Opportunity for service
- Technical assistance forum
- Occasion to support widespread ham radio goodwill

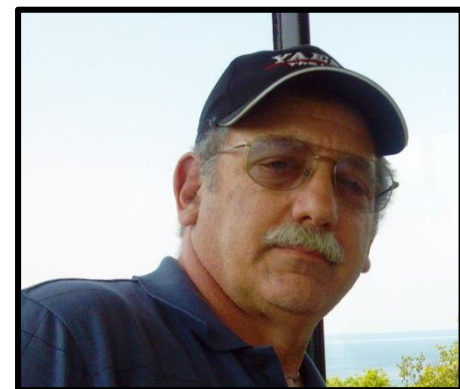
The **Independent Repeater Association Inc.** is user funded. There are no dues. Finances that cover the cost of operation and, maintenance come strictly from donations (equipment and money) which are tax deductible.

More Information: [W8IRA.org](http://W8IRA.org)

Charles “Chuck” Scott, N8DNX of Petoskey died peacefully in Ann Arbor on October 20, 2020 at the age of 68.

Chuck was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan with his three siblings. As a teenager, he developed his lifelong interest in amateur radio and electronics, earning his ham radio license in 1966.

He built the WBLD radio station at West Bloomfield High School, where he also raced with the ski team.



His sister said Chuck had a radar for detecting when others needed a helping hand and re

As an active citizen, Chuck’s influence extended throughout the area. Along with his friend Jim Cook and brother Dave, he co-founded Freeway, bringing the first residential and business Internet access to Northern Michigan. In 1998.

Chuck served on the Board of Directors for the Icebreaker Mackinaw Maritime Museum and was Vice President of Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet Counties Public Service Communications

Organization (CCECPSCO). He was also a valued member of the Straits Area Amateur Radio Club (SAARC) and the former Tri-County Office of Emergency Management Committee (OEM).

Chuck is survived by his wife, Jan; daughters, Amy and Krista; siblings, Marty, Deborah, and Dave; and numerous extended family. They will host an online celebration of Chuck’s life on November 14, 2020.

Those interested may request details at and those wishing to convey messages to the family can connect to:

[http://www.n8dnx.org/#gform\\_1](http://www.n8dnx.org/#gform_1)

Anyone wishing to honor Chuck’s memory with a donation may give to the

Icebreaker Mackinaw Maritime Museum at [themackinaw.org](http://themackinaw.org),

or to

CCECPSCO, c/o Chuck Brew  
PO Box 686  
Mackinaw City, 49701



## How to squeeze extra juice from your Cherry Juice

-editor

This newsletter is published in .PDF file format for viewing on-line.

.PDF format also allows hyperlinks to additional information, referenced sites, or sign-up links that are available by clicking the underlined links.

If you print a copy to read at your leisure, great!

Just remember that there is more to it when you view it again on-line.





## Upcoming Workshop Plans

Each session will be socially distanced, round-table discussion about our experiences so far in radio- What do you want to achieve?

**Getting on-air for the first time** can be daunting, but with this workshop you learn what to say, and practice it several times. Everyone gets a chance to transmit increasing your confidence by getting practice, feedback & encouragement.

**Getting your radio programmed** for repeaters and local frequencies is a great way to start using radio to join nets or just visit with fellow hams.

**Getting an antenna up**, or a station puzzle solved will help new or experienced hams, enjoy their time on-air and expand their interests.

To receive schedules and notices, [Sign up here](#) For the club email list, where we will announce dates and times.

**For more information**, or to discuss your needs further and to let us know you plan to attend, contact Scott WX1J at [wx1j@arrl.net](mailto:wx1j@arrl.net) or by phone at 248-495-3665.

# New-ham workshop was well attended

October 17 was colder than we'd like. But that Saturday afternoon was the start of a club initiative to bring new hams into the hobby by providing assistance with radio set-up, getting what and how, experience on the air and welcoming them into the hobby.

**Maryanne, KE8PFP, Roger, KE0QNZ, Anton KE8PFO and Lee, Ballard**, were the first hams to attend the first workshop that was held at the Civic Center Pavilion in Traverse City. It was 44 degrees with some rain. The workshop covered getting the radios set on a simplex frequency. Then discussed what to say and why.

Then they practiced on the air a couple of rounds, so everyone had a chance to transmit and discuss questions and experiences.

The workshop was conducted by **Dave K8WPE, Joe KC8RLU and Scott, WX1J** who shared their experience of learning the first time and discussing answers to many great questions.

This dialog and opportunity to practice is designed to help new hams feel more comfortable with their radios and on the air.

Plans for future workshops are developing. However, the next workshop will be held indoors, where we can physically distance and provide a safe, warm environment.

**Thanks to everyone who participated!**



**Next Workshop  
November 14**

# TBARG

TRAVERSE BAY AMATEUR RADIO GROUP

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

**DMR Radios** - DMR would be a backup system with talkgroups very similar to the 800 MHz radios. It would allow local, region, state, and nation wide access. Homeland Security has authorized internet based hotspots for each of the District 7 EOC's. We are working on programming these hotspots and developing a standardized codeplug for handheld radios. DMR radios can be purchased for as low as \$50. We also have a small/easily deployable DMR repeater that can be put in a trunk of a car. Range would be anywhere from 2 to 10 miles depending upon terrain.

## Funding Needed for Starlink Satellite Internet Access

Ham radio cannot handle high speed/high bandwidth data needs. Voice and simple text (1 to 2 pages) is something we can easily handle. We practice sending ICS-213 messages on Android tablets every Monday evening. But, video conferencing, photos, videos, sending HIPPA encrypted information is beyond what we can do.

*It is critical that emergency communications remain relevant and useful in the future. In an emergency, you want to have multiple tools as communications systems can and will fail.*

**TBARG** has signed up to be a beta tester for Starlink. The dish is about the size of a pizza box and can be deployed in minutes. People so far are getting around 100 Meg service. Sometime next year, I would like to get one for TBARG. The estimated monthly cost looks like \$100 a month and \$500 of the equipment. TBARG cannot afford this so I am looking for a funding source. If you have any recommendations, please send an email to:

[GTSkywarn@gmail.com](mailto:GTSkywarn@gmail.com).

## Next TBARG Meeting

November 11th, Wednesday, at 5123 N Royal Drive, Traverse City, at 7:00 PM. We will be using COVID precautions (face mask, temperature screening, and disinfectant). We will also be using ZOOM.

## Coming Highlights

### November

CARC Board Meeting	3-Nov
TBARG Meeting	11-Nov
New Ham Workshop	14-Nov
CARC Club Meeting	24-Nov

### December

CARC Board Meeting	1-Dec
New Ham Workshop	12-Dec

### January

Technician License  
Class schedule  
announced

## 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