



Cherry Juice

Newsletter of the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club

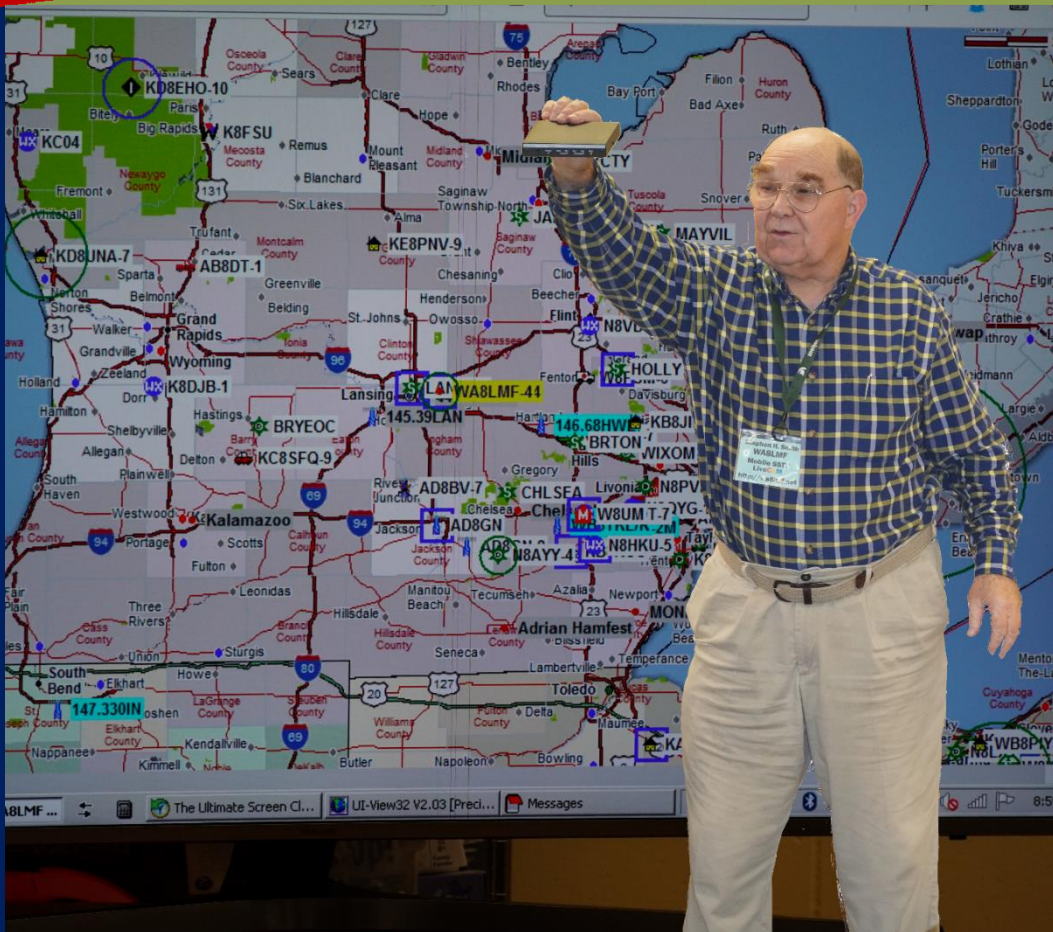
VOLUME ISSUE

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APRS EXPLAINED

BY

STEVE WA8LMF

The Cherryland ARC General Meeting for October was filled with useful information about APRS! Our good friend Steve Smith, WA8LMF made the journey up to Traverse City from East Lansing to speak to the group about APRS. If you missed the meeting, never fear! Steve will be back for our November General Meeting to review the first presentation and expand your knowledge and awareness of APRS for his second session!

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Affiliated Club #1082

APRS with Stephen H. Smith WA8LMF

Some of you may have met Steve at the Cherryland ARC picnic this year, or the 2020 Swap-N-Shop, or several of the other cub events he's attended. If you have, your conversation with Steve probably wasn't forgotten! He's amazingly technical and has been in the experimenter / maker sphere for some time.

Steve's [background](#) is pretty interesting. A BS-EET from LSSU, his career path has been extensive and varied, and he brings with him, as well as a fluent and working knowledge of RF, Electronics, IT and integration, a sense of what I like to call "True Geekdom."

It's easily apparent that when working with a system of tools toward a goal, Steve does not take elements of it for granted; if your radio plugs into an interface, then into a computer, he wants to completely – and I mean COMPLETELY – [understand every part of that system](#): The radio and how it works, how it's interfaced to and from, the interface itself, down to the cable and connectors used, and all of the aspects that tie it into a computer, including the capabilities of the computer and software in use. He makes it his mission to have an understanding of each discrete part as well as the complete picture.

For Heinlein fans, if you saw Steve experimenting with a technology, you would know that he is on a mission to "grok to fullness" all associated topics.



Steve set out on a mission to "demystify" APRS to the club for our October general meeting. To this author's appreciation, he began with a really great history of *Packet Radio* itself – the foundation of what we now know as APRS – and how APRS was developed. Moreover, Steve explained how APRS [is "far more" than just a simple position-reporting service](#).

Steve had a varied assortment of examples of the technologies involved, and had brought with him several operating nodes, and an impressive crossband station on his mobile unit in the parking lot.

If you missed out on the talk – you really missed a great one! But your chance isn't completely passed! Due to schedule changes at the Salvation Army, Steve will be back for our November 23rd meeting to summarize the first part of his talk, conclude his presentation, and take questions.

You won't want to miss your chance to learn from a true Digital Radio pioneer!



Left: Steve beginning his presentation.

Right: Club Members admiring Steve's mobile digipeater setup in the parking lot.



Alma Matters

- Joe N8CN



Recently, Ken N8LUL shared with me a response he received from another “CARC” – the Case Amateur Radio Club at CWRU in Ohio. The Case ARC enjoys a shack on the roof of their 8-story Electrical Engineering building, and their antenna arrays look impressive. The response that Ken received was a thank-you letter for some antennas, offset attenuator kits, and a receiver kit that he had donated to their club.

The response was from Professor Kazdan who teaches Electromagnetic Field Theory. You’ll find the thank-you note on the following page, and you can find out more about the Case ARC here: <https://w8edu.wordpress.com>

This got me thinking about my time at Michigan Tech. There are a few reasons I’ve donated things to the Husky Amateur Radio Club over the years. It’s easy to talk about the obvious reasons, and if you read the text of the professor’s letter, you’ll see what I mean; these environments are where minds are open to learning, experimenting, and sharing. Having quality equipment and myriad options available to students can be an amazing kick-started for not only a future Ham Radio hobby, but a successful technology career. So if you can contribute to the organization being able to better reach people, it’s an immediate benefit.

Coming out of high-school in 1995, the term “ADD” had recently been popularized. The more matured term “ADHD” had not yet gained ground. Today, However, looking at how my kids (who have inherited some of my DNA) are progressing academically, it’s amazingly apparent to me: I would have been diagnosed with classical ADHD in almost no time at all in my youth, with today’s knowledge. We’re also really good at providing corrective assistance - I’m watching my children overcome struggles that I wrestled with seemingly infinitely. Modern science and medicine is great! But looking back, the lack of identification and treatment was a huge reason many were not successful in academia. I was one of the lucky ones, and I made it through, but NOT easily.

What’s this have to do with ham radio? Well, the main reason I continued on with education beyond high school and ended up being successful in college was due to The Husky Amateur Radio Club at MTU. Rather, the friends and connections I made there at good ol’ W8YY.

It’s uncommon that, going off to a university setting, you take a ‘cadre’ of friends with you. It’s mostly all new. Also uncommon is that those with heavy-technical focus have supremely-developed social skills and meet a lot of new friends.

To say that “College was a struggle for me” is an understatement. I lost count of the times I ended up in what seemed like academically impossible situations, and by the end of my 3rd year, feared I’d need to toss in the towel. I had actually made the decision before winter break to skip a few days of classes and found myself in the W8YY shack working random folks on 20M.

Another club member, Rob, stopped by and noticed I was ‘checked out’ of academic mode and obviously distracting myself, and we talked. And another friend of mine Dave made it his mission to help me find a way to focus on Differential Equations. And yet another friend Mike helped me overcome conceptual challenges with field effects and some aspects of advanced calculus.

Looking back I wondered how I’d been so lucky to have these three key folks in my life be willing to step in, amidst all the junk they were dealing with themselves, to help dig out a self-entrenched messy situation like me.

The common thread we all had was the radio club. And toward the end of my last year, I happened to be able to be in a position where I was able to help out someone else who looked to be in a very familiar situation... College is a weird time!

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While involved with the HARC, one thing that I learned was that, over the years, the group came close to dissolving and losing their shack and resources several times, mostly due to low student membership. I noticed also that low student membership was usually a lack of awareness that there was even a Ham Radio club at the school at all. It seems over the years, the club sometimes didn't have enough resources to produce mailers, table-tents, or other marketing material, or that the students just lacked the cumulative time to take action due to low member counts.

OM Ken:

I'm sorry we didn't get to see you at Homecoming and the W8-Michelson event!

Thank you very much for your kind donation of kits to the radio club. Last night was our weekly open-station and the students pored over them and started constructing one of the receiver kits. We enjoy on-campus foxhunts and also hold them at the CWRU farm during Field Day, so the antennas and attenuators will be well-used for that.

This has been quite a year for the radio club. We took advantage of the COVID downtime to rebuild the station's indoor facilities, and our five-year antenna fundraising project finished last week so we may have new antennas and towers before snow flies. We have licensed twenty undergraduates already this semester and gotten nearly all of them on the air.

We also are sponsoring a variety of engineering senior projects, plus we have an NSF-sponsored PhD nearly ready for defense. Check on w8edu.wordpress.com and hamsci.org for more information on that.

We'll see you soon, I hope!

73,



David, AD8Y

David Kazdan, MD, PhD
CARC faculty advisor

Fighting this feedback-loop scenario is difficult, especially with student-members whose “main goal” is to ... graduate! Not necessarily play with radios all the time! So “making things easy” in that sort of a club environment is *incredibly helpful* in making sure the members of the organization are as successful as possible in both keeping it alive, and finding useful resources within. I simply cannot imagine how I would have “connected” with enough people who became close friends outside of academic guidelines without our common interest in Ham Radio, rooted in the club at the time.

This important cornerstone of connection isn't unique to college environments! For several years, here at NMC there was an Amateur Radio club, and for many years more than half of the students who made use of its resources were still in high school, attending focus courses at the NMC centers.

I could throw a small stone on the internet and hit a random article describing how “ham radio is dying” because not many youth are getting into the hobby, or that the numbers are dwindling. With a little digging, you might eventually see that there's some biased reporting, and that while the numbers are still overall trending upward, the upward trend is severely lagging that of the overall population trend, so there is a legitimate cause for some concern. And how to address this? Well, one common theme is that – the future lies in the hands of our youth!

Ah yes, this recurring theme – the youth is our future! We arrive at this conclusion (rightly so) often. Even the Cherryland ARC – we've had demographic focus groups, outreach programs, and brainstorming sessions on ways to grow not just the club, but the hobby overall. We eventually all realize that the future of the hobby is with the youth, and we just need to figure out how to engage them. In most cases we come up with elaborate and complicated ways to do this, which vary in success.

But – something you can do now, today, that will have an immediate effect? You can make a donation to a group that exists at an educational institution. The worst thing that can happen is radio silence. But you may be surprised! You might just get a response confirming that your small gesture may have been the “spark” for someone embarking on their academic journey and happens to find Ham Radio, or maybe you've enabled a group to more easily be a resource for members of the student body to simply connect and become good friends. And the value of these might be truly astounding!

de Joe N8CN

RCA transatlantic QSO PARTY this weekend

The following announcement is from K3LR, Tim Duffy:

Few dates are more important in ham radio than December 11, 1921. That's when members of the Radio Club of America (RCA) and the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) successfully transmitted signals that spanned the Atlantic Ocean. The 100th anniversary of that day is upon us and YOU are invited to celebrate!

WHY WE CELEBRATE

During the month of November, 1921, a group of Radio Club of America members, led by Major Edwin Armstrong quickly pulled together an amateur radio transmitting station in Greenwich Connecticut. It was the cutting edge of the era: a nearly thousand watt CW station at the (considered useless) 'shortwaves' (just below the present 160m band). On the other end, in Ardrossan Scotland, Armstrong's new superheterodyne receiver combined with RCA member Harold Beverage's new 'wave' antenna allowed state of the art receive selectivity and sensitivity. The missing piece? The ionosphere: speculated to exist and to work for long distance at the new shortwaves. On December 11, 1921, it all came together and station 1BCG made it across, the first of about two dozen amateur radio stations heard.

The importance? Notes RCA President John Facella, K9FJ: "Hams, through the innovations of the RCA members, used ingenuity, smaller, state of the art electronic equipment, and new bands and mode to connect the continents. That set the pace for the 100 years of smaller and higher performance telecommunications wonders that followed, making a truly connected world." Yes, the world owes it to ham radio!

JOIN US IN A QSO PARTY ON 13 NOVEMBER

The Radio Club of America is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Transatlantic Test by hosting a CW and SSB QSO Party from 1200Z, November 13 to 0400Z, November 14. We will all contact each other—not just special event stations. Open to ALL hams and shortwave listeners on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters, with 10 bonus points awarded (per band and mode) for contacting Radio Club of America's station, W2RCA. Scores should be posted to 3830 Scores Home.

You can find all the rules and more information about additional events commemorating the Transatlantic Test's centennial:

[Transatlantic Test Centennial - Radio Club of America](#)

A free certificate will be available, along with a complimentary copy of the commemorative RCA Proceedings, from the RCA site.

A MONTH OF FESTIVITIES

The RCA Transatlantic QSO Party is held as a centennial anniversary commensurate with the building of TX station in November. Note that this is the ONLY participatory QSO event for the Transatlantic Centennial, so plan your celebration now 😊

But...stay tuned... the Radio Club of America will be RE-ENACTING the TRANSATLANTIC TRANSMISSIONS at 02:52 UT on 12 December on 160m with W2RCA. More info to come!

The Antique Wireless Association(AWA), American Radio Relay League(ARRL), The Radio Society of Great Britain(RSGB), Radio Club of America(RCA), and others all are participating in the Transatlantic Centennial festivities Watch for additional news pieces as the month progresses!

TBARG Tablet Workshop

By Glen Johnson, K8SGZ

Glen's Office, Wednesday, Nov 17, 6:30PM

Sending typed ICS-213 messages with 100 percent accuracy in a rapid manner over VHF/UHF/HF frequencies with inexpensive Android tablets has proven to be a very effective strategy for emergency communications.

We will be having a workshop at Glen's office (5123 N Royal Drive in Traverse City). If you are a beginner or want to brush up on this approach, you are welcome to join us.

Get an Amazon 8 Tablet for \$45 - There is a sale on Amazon for the Fire HD 8 that is normally \$89.99 for \$44.99. A great deal!

I have revised the manual for installing and using FLDigi on the Amazon Tablet. You will receive access to the file at this workshop.



TBARG - Traverse Bay Amateur Radio Group
5123 North Royal Drive
Traverse City, MI 49684
Web Site - TBARG.ORG
GTSkyvram@gmail.com
fax (231) 421-5560

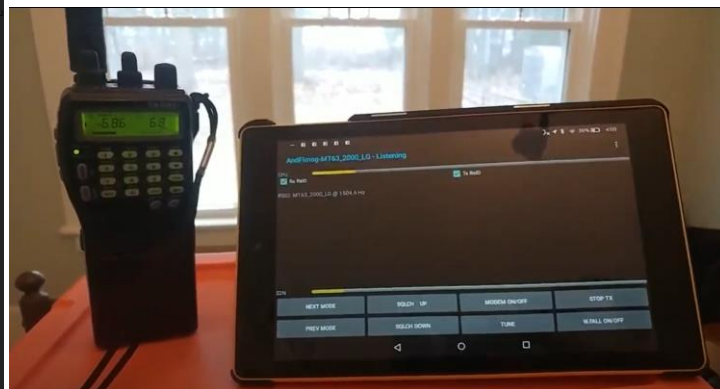
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SETTING UP FLDIGI ON AN AMAZON FIRE TABLET V1.5

By Glen Johnson

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Membership Reminders

Membership Dues

Club Member dues are annual, and each membership begins on January first.

You are also able to renew your membership early!



CARC Membership Dues:

- Individual
\$24.00
- Family in same house
\$26.00
- Student Discounted Rate:
\$5.00

You may send your dues to:

Ward Kuhn N8WK
PO Box 987 Traverse
City, MI 49685



ARRL Affiliation

The Cherryland Amateur Radio Club has been ARRL-Affiliated for many years, we are affiliated club number 1082.

To maintain affiliation, 51% of the Cherryland ARC voting membership must be licensed amateurs, and 51% must also maintain an active membership with the ARRL.

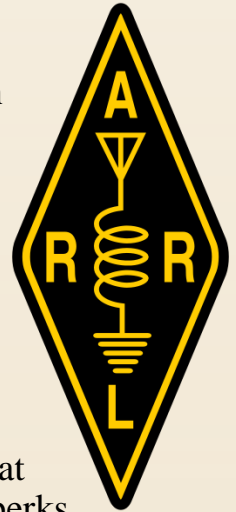
[ARRL Membership](#) costs for 2021-2022 start at \$49 but there are other levels with additional perks.

The [basic membership level](#) gains you access to one of the magazines *QST* or *On The Air*, access to online services (digital versions of the magazines, archive search, email forwarding, and electronic news).

Additional [benefits of ARRL membership are numerous and listed here](#), but let me just say that over the years as a Ham Radio operator, I have come to appreciate that the ARRL exists and works for us all as an advocate for all aspects of Amateur Radio. Whether your interests are Emergency Communications, DXing, Building, Experimenting, Contesting, or just starting out and learning, the ARRL has a division that caters to the topics of your interest. In my experience, the ARRL has always been helpful and eager to assist in your Amateur Radio journey.

We urge you to consider becoming an ARRL member, not only to keep us at our goal of greater than 51% membership, but to have the ARRL “In Your Corner” as you explore areas of the hobby.

It’s something you won’t regret!



CARC CALENDAR

November 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 SMASH Net 3.935 MHz 9:00 AM	1 TBARG & MESH NETS 146.86 MHz 8:00 PM	Breakfast Big Boy - 9am Board Meeting Salvation Army 7:30 PM	3 TBARG District 7 DMR Net TGIF Talk Group 2416 TC: 443.3125+ TS1 7:30 PM	4	5	6 VE Exam Traverse Area District Library 1:00 PM
7 SMASH Net 3.935 MHz 9:00 AM	8 TBARG & MESH NETS 146.86 MHz 8:00 PM	9 Breakfast Big Boy - 9am Project Night Salvation Army 7:30 PM	10 TBARG District 7 DMR Net TGIF Talk Group 2416 TC: 443.3125+ TS1 7:30 PM	11	12	13
14 SMASH Net 3.935 MHz 9:00 AM	15 TBARG & MESH NETS 146.86 MHz 8:00 PM	16 Breakfast Big Boy - 9am Project Night Salvation Army 7:30 PM	17 TBARG Tablet Workshop Glen's Office 6:30 PM	18	19	20
21 SMASH Net 3.935 MHz 9:00 AM	22 TBARG & MESH NETS 146.86 MHz 8:00 PM	23 Breakfast Big Boy - 9am Club Meeting Salvation Army 7:30 PM	24 TBARG District 7 DMR Net TGIF Talk Group 2416 TC: 443.3125+ TS1 7:30 PM	25	26	27
28 SMASH Net 3.935 MHz 9:00 AM	29 TBARG & MESH NETS 146.86 MHz 8:00 PM	30 Breakfast Big Boy - 9am Project Night Salvation Army 7:30 PM	1 TBARG District 7 DMR Net TGIF Talk Group 2416 TC: 443.3125+ TS1 7:30 PM	2	3	4

It's time to get ready for the
Cherryland Amateur Radio Club



HAM RADIO

Swap-N-Shop

This year the Swap will be held on
February 12, 2022.

The location will be the
**St. Francis High School
Gymnasium
123 E. 11th Street
Traverse City, MI 49684**

We are seeking volunteers for:

- VE Sessions
- Set-up, evening of Feb 11th, Morning of Feb 12th
- Talk-In monitoring/direction

If you are interested in volunteering please contact:

Joe N8CN – joe@n8cn.org (231.668.4223)

Watch For:

- Flyer: next page! Feel Free to Copy and Distribute!
- online table reservations beginning in December.

Stay Tuned!

Coming Highlights

November

Board Meeting	NOV 2
VE EXAM Session	NOV 6
Project Nights	NOV 16
Club Meeting	NOV 23
New Ham Workshop	NOV 27

December

Christmas Party	DEC 7
Project Nights	DEC 14,21
Christmas Party	DEC 7

January

Board Meeting	JAN 4
Project Nights	JAN 11,18
Club Meeting	JAN 25

February

Board Meeting	FEB 1
Project Nights	FEB 8,15
Club Meeting	FEB 22
SWAP N SHOP	FEB 12

CHERRYLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

President	Ernie, K8RCT		
Vice President	Glen, K8SGZ		
Treasurer	Ward, N8WK		
Recording Secretary	Hope, AA8SN	Board Member	Mark, KC8ZAP
Communicating Secretary	Joe, KC8RLU	Board Member	Drake, N8DMH
Cherry Juice Editor	Joe, N8CN	Board Member	Scott, WX1J



48th Annual HAM RADIO

Swap-N-Shop

SATURDAY

February 12th, 2022

8am - noon

Admission \$5.00 – Table \$8.00

**Door
Prizes!**

**St. Francis High School
Gymnasium
123 E. 11th Street
Traverse City, MI 49684**

**VE
Exams
9 am**



**An ARRL-Sanctioned
Swap Event**

Parking in parking lot
at Cass and 11th st.

VE Exam Info:

Hope, AA8SN:
hopeaa8sn@gmail.com
or 231-218-0622

www.CherrylandARC.com

For information or table reservations, call:
Joe Erlewein N8CN at (231) 668-4223
swap@cherrylandarc.com



**Talk-In
146.860 (-)
W8TCM / R
PL 114.8 / YSF**