

# The Cherry Juice

Newsletter of the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club

# ARE YOU

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# RADIO-ACTIVE?

Ernie K8RCT asks the question: "How Radio-Active Are You?"

It's been a long winter, and spring is (maybe? kinda??) here...

So, what have you been up to? How are you heading into your spring?

Seeking a new License? Want to Upgrade? The next CARC VE session is on May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Traverse Area District Library, upstairs in Study Room D, from 1:00 to 3:00. You will need to register ahead of time with Hope AA8SN, and be sure you have your FCC FRN number in advance.

Contact <a href="https://example.com">HopeAA8SN@gmail.com</a> for more information and to get signed up!





Saturday April 16

Starts: 12:00 Noon (EDT)

24:00 Midnight (EDT) Ends: ( Apr 16 1600Z to Apr 17 0400Z )

Use CW or SSB on:

80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters.

Complete rules and other information are found at:

https://miqp.org/

Official List of County Abbreviations are found at:

https://miqp.org/index.php/officiallist-of-mults/

### Handy Guide to Operating this Contest

**Call:** CQ Michigan QSO Party, (Your Call) **Answer:** Their Callsign, Your Call Sign, RST Report, Your County 4 Digit Abbreviation

(GRTR, LEEL, BENZ, etc.)

They Answer: Your Call, Their Call, RST Report, Their County 4 Digit Abbreviation

You Answer: QSL, Good Luck in the contest.

Log Your Contact:

**Minimum:** Date, Time (UTC or Eastern), Station Call Sign, Band, Mode (SSB or CW) RST Received, RST Sent, County . State or DX that you Received.

After the Contest:

Export a Cabrillo file from your logging software. Check the format matches the MIQP.org Format (available on-line)

Enter Cherryland ARC as your Club affiliation. Submit your log. (Both you and the Club get your points)

OR

Export whatever format you have from your logging software – (.adi, .csv) Send that file or a copy of your Excel file, handwritten log or note sheet to WX1J@arrl.net - Subject: MIQP Log File
This is a service of Cherryland Amateur Radio Club for it's members

March Meeting Review



#### **CLUB MEETING in Review**

With the February Club Meeting being cancelled due to inclement weather, everyone was itching to get back together at the March Club Meeting.

Doors opened at 7:30pm and President Ernie,
K8RCT, called for the treasurer's report.

#### Treasurer's Report

Ward gave the report that we are doing well, in the black and that the Swap was a big success. Also reported that members have been paying their dues and that helps as well. Glen, K8SGZ reported that the TBARG tables at the club were responsible for generating around \$500 for TBARG. Scott, WX1J, presented \$100 cash to Ward from the sale of one of Joe W8TVT's Triband Yagi's. The funds were earmarked for TBARG. There is yet one more Triband Yagi- Mosely 33 for 20-15-10 Meters available.

#### **SWAP Report**

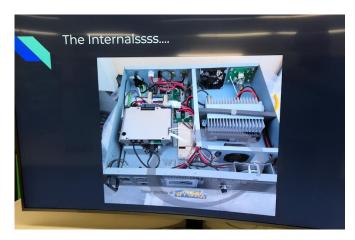
Much of the equipment sold by the Club and TBARG was donated to the club by various hams. A large contributor to this year's SWAP was from Joe W8TVT's stock-pile, donated by the family. Thank you to all who donated their equipment, time and talents to make the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Swap & Shop a success.

During the reporting part of the show, a slideshow of scenes at the swap was shown.

#### **March Presentation**

After the Swap and Treasury were closed, Ernie passed the floor to Drake N8DMH to deliver the evening's presentation regarding the current state of the Club repeaters and plans for what needs to be done, and what opportunities exist for additional improvements to the repeaters' coverage, functionality and usability.





# March Meeting Review (continued)

#### Michigan QSO Party

Following Drake's repeater program update, Ernie returned to the helm to challenge CARC Club Members to participate in the 2022 Michigan QSO Party on Saturday April 16, 2022, Noon to Midnight.

Results from 2021 were read with Ernie, K8RCT as top point earner for 2021 out of 6 stations reporting for CARC. Ed Ketterer, K8EK was high on the list with Ernie and Ed using CW gaining 2 points per contact. Ernie reminded the members that in years-gone-by, CARC won top-prize for most contacts. Challenge 2022 - We need to regain the top step of the podium. Can you help? Key point is to *participate*. Log your contacts. Send your contact logs to Scott, WX1J and we will configure the proper File Format. You will get your points personally, and your points will be added to CARC as a club entry. You can prepare and submit your own Cabrillo file, just list Cherryland ARC as your CLUB affiliation.

More than anything- just have fun. Give it a whirl and get on the air- make a contact or twenty and send your file in. Come on people! We've Got This!

#### Cake Day

Business behind us. Our attention turned to Coffee- and Donuts. (What???? No Donuts???) Ernie, K8RCT remembered that Drake N8DMH has a birthday coming up. Ernie and Ward lit candles on a Chocolate cake, with a chocolate filling, covered with a frosting of; you guessed it, Chocolate. I was unaware that so many ham radio operators could sing in a barbershop quartet style rendition of the Happy Birthday song- (or was that a cat-fight in the alley??) Drake cut the cake, Ernie served, and a great time was had by all. Even those who concluded that the chocolate and carbohydrates would undo all they have accomplished over so much time, they rightfully declined to partake. I did partake, and the cake











# March Meeting Review (continued)

#### **Allstar Demo**

Glen K8SGZ, fired up his newest Radio- that used IP connection to connect to Drake's repeater and made a couple of contacts using Allstar over IP. The contacts were solid and audio quality was impressive.





#### And then we all went home.

We sincerely hope to see you at the April CARC Club Member Meeting, where you can tell us how you did in the Michigan QSO Party. 73 All, Stay Safe.

-de Scott, WX1J



# How RadioActive are you?

Ernie Abel, K8RCT

So, just how much ham radio have you been doing this winter? Maybe getting on a few VHF nets and chatting with the same gang week after week? OK, that's fun and I like chatting with other hams but that is not what gets me active on the radio. I'm on HF nearly every day!

So what is keeping my rig warmed up? First of all I discovered that after 60+ years in ham radio I had never worked 5 band DXCC! I went to my Log book of the World account (LoTW) that the ARRL maintains and discovered I had hundreds of confirmed contacts on 20 and 15 meters but was short of 100 Q's on 10, 40 and 80 meters. Call to action!

I needed about 5 more confirmed contacts on 10 meters and about 6 more on 40 meters. Luckily the 10 meter band has opened up again after a long lull. Lots and lots of DX stations on the air. It took one day to make contact with 8 new DXCC countries on 10 meters. In a few days I had the required QSL's from six of them - DXCC on ten meters complete!

Now 40 meters is a different story. I'm using a 40 meter loop antenna which is pretty good for DX but finding new countries to work is a chore. I'm not a late night guy so I'm not as active on



bands. However after conquering 10 meters I have been concentrating more on 40 meters. After a couple of evenings concentrating on 40 meters neted another 8 new countries on that band (which 6 QSL'd )which brought be up to the the necessary 100 countries.

Eighty meters is a bigger challenge as I need about 40 new countries. I'm only using an endfed antenna on 80 meters - it works but it's harder to pull out the DX stations. It looks like a few more late evening and early morning hours to pull that rabbit out of the hat! (graffic)

Now for the really fun stuff...contesting. Even little contests like the recent Oklahoma QSO party was a fun afternoon on a cold winter's day. I worked the party on CW and it was fun because everyone was operating at a nice easy pace so I could practice my CW. I'm a bit rusty with a hand key but that was what was fun and interesting. You don't need to know CW for a lot of these contests as they have both CW and SSB modes. I'll write about contesting in another article. (hand key graphic)

Heads up! The Michigan QSO party comes up in April. It's a great chance to practice your operating skills before Field Day!

# Dayton / Xenia Hamvention News

For those of you wondering, YES the <del>Dayton</del> Xenia Hamvention is ON! No guesswork this year – the pandemic is not going to keep them down! If you've never been to the annual official Hamvention – you really should plan on it! And this year is bound to be a big one!

Check out the official website for more details! <a href="https://www.hamvention.org">https://www.hamvention.org</a>

There ARE a few club members to regularly attend, and it's quite often that carpooling, hotel sharing, and meet-ups happen, so – by all means, ask a friend, inquire on nets – find out what people are planning, and make it a group effort!



# Field Day On The Distant Horizon

This year, Field Day is June 25-26. Believe it or not, that is only 2 club meetings away! That means at the April meeting we'll be discussing our rough plan, and by the May meeting we'll have a lot of the details worked out as far as equipment, antennas, stations, food, personnel, and scheduling. You may want to keep your eyes peeled and your ears sharp, so that you can get involved! Field Day 2022 is bound to be a magnificent event now with the pandemic subsiding that has kept everyone "remote" for so long – Time to open up the airwaves and join with others in a field full of RF!



# TIBARE UPDATE

TRAVERSE BAY AMATEUR RADIO GROUP

## EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

#### STARLINK IS UP AND RUNNING, TEST RESULTS ARE GOOD

Lacking a formal, lengthy article on the update of TBARG projects, I wanted to report to you all that the TBARG Starlink initiative is assembled, up and running, and currently being tested. Glen tracked statistics for more than 10 days up the observed data rates. TBARG has several interesting ideas for incorporation of the new service with varying areas of support with local entities involved with Emergency response and incident handling.

Assembly of the system to prepare for both pole and ground mounting was challenging, mostly in sourcing all of the accessories, but the plan is coming together nicely. Please do be looking forward to more news and information about this initiative, and possibly another presentation at

an upcoming Cherryland ARC meeting. And don't forget to check into the TBARG NET Monday Nights at 8PM to test your gear and your digital message handling!



	А	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н
1	Starlink Test	Speedtest.com	<u>n</u>					
2								
3	<u>Date</u>	<u>Down</u>	<u>Up</u>	Ping	Conditions	<u>Time</u>	Outages last	12 Hours
4								
5	4/4	170	20	42	Rain/Snow	10:30 AM		
6	4/4	234	16	38	Rain/Snow	10:45 AM		
7	4.4	162	10	49	Rain	4:45 PM		
8	4/5	132	16	52	Overcast	9:58 AM		
9	4/5	168	14	45	Overcast	11:46 AM		
10	4/5	134	11	38	Overcast	1:44 PM		
11	4/5	203	6	39	Sunny	3:20 PM		
12	4/6	102	14	61	Rain	10:03 AM		
13	4/6	162	15	38	Heavy Rain	10:46 AM		
14	4/7	228	8	46	Overcast	1:34 PM		
15	4/7	139	14	54	Overcast	2:44 PM		
16	4/8	134	10	38	Overcast	10:30 AM		
17	4/8	202	13	62	Overcast	10:48 AM	15 Sec 3:33AN	И
18	4/10	172	14	48	Sunny	12:58 PM	0 Last 12 Hour	rs
19	4/11	128	8	53	Sunny	9:19 AM	4 Sec 9:43PM	
20	4/11	174	9	46	Sunny	11:04 AM	0 - Solar Storn	n Today
21	4/11	191	8	38	Sunny	1:33 PM	0 - Solar Storn	n Today
22	4/11	131	6	53	Sunny	3:59 PM	0 - Solar Storn	n Today
23	4/12	178	13	54	Sunny	9:11 AM	15 Sec 10:12P	M
24	4/13	212	14	54	Overcast	10:52	4 Sec 3:15AM	
25	4/13	127	7	58	Overcast	2:41 PM		
26	4/14	163	5	62	Sunny	10:59 AM	15 Sec 2:48AN	И
27	4/14	137	8	63	High Winds	1:22 PM	10 Sec 11:56A	M
28	4/15	142	7	46	Overcast	11:12 AM	0 Last 12 Hour	rs
29								
30	Average	163.5416667	11.08333333	49.04166667				



# **New License Application Fees**

A Public Notice released by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on March 23, 2022, in MD Docket No. 20-270, announced that new application fees for Wireless Telecommunications Bureau applications will become effective on April 19, 2022. The new fees, mandated by Congress, apply to applications for Amateur Radio licenses including those associated with filing Form 605, the Amateur Operator/Primary Station Licensee Application.

The docket can be found online at, https://www.fcc.gov/document/effective-datewireless-application-fee-rates

Effective April 19, 2022, a \$35 fee will apply to applications for a new Amateur Radio license, modification (upgrade and sequential call sign change), renewal, and vanity call signs.

Anticipating the implementation of the fee in 2022, the ARRL Board of Directors, at its July 2021 meeting, approved the "ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program." Under the program, ARRL will cover a one-time \$35 application fee for license candidates younger than 18 years old for tests administered under the auspices of the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC). Qualified candidates also would pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to the ARRL VEC. ARRL is finalizing details for administering the program.

ARRL had filed comments in opposition to imposing a fee on Amateur Radio license applications. The FCC initially proposed a higher, \$50 fee. In a Report and Order (R&O), released on December 29, 2020, the amount was reduced -- the FCC agreeing with ARRL and other commenters that its proposed \$50 fee for certain amateur radio applications was "too high to account for the minimal staff involvement in these applications."

ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC) Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, explained that all fees are per application. "There will be no fee for administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address. The fees will be the responsibility of the applicant regardless of filing method and must be paid within 10 calendar days of FCC's receipt of the application. For applications filed by a VEC, the period does not begin until the application is received by the Commission, a ULS file number assigned, and an email sent by the FCC directly to the applicant."

VECs and Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not collect the \$35 fee at license exam sessions. New and upgrade candidates at an exam session will continue to pay the \$15 exam session fee to the ARRL VE team as usual, and pay the new, \$35 application fee directly to the FCC by using the CORES FRN Registration system (CORES - Login).

### From ARRL News

## New License Application Fees (continued)

The CORES Login can be found at, <a href="https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do">https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do</a>

When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each successful candidate who then will have 10 calendar days from the date of the email to pay. After the fee is paid and the FCC has processed an application, examinees will receive a second email from the FCC with a link to their official license or explanation of other action. The link will be good for 30 days.

Somma also explained that applications that are processed and dismissed will not be entitled to a refund. This includes vanity call sign requests where the applicant does not receive the requested call sign. "The FCC staff has suggested that applicants for vanity call signs should first ensure the call signs requested are available and eligible for their operator class and area, and then request as many call signs as the form allows to maximize their chances of receiving a call sign."

Further information and instructions about the FCC Application Fee are available from the ARRL VEC at <a href="https://www.arrl.org/fcc-application-fee">www.arrl.org/fcc-application-fee</a>.

Details for the ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program will be similarly posted there, when available.

#### UPDATE on April 5th:

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) staff has clarified in response to an ARRL request that the new \$35 application fee will not apply to most license modifications, including those to upgrade amateur radio licensee's operator class and changes to club station trustees. The FCC staff explained that the new fees will apply only to applications for a new license, renewal, rule waiver, or a new vanity call sign. As previously announced, the new fees take effect on April 19, 2022.

"We are pleased that the FCC will not charge licensees the FCC application fee for license upgrade applications," said ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM. "While applicants for a new license will need to pay the \$35 FCC application fee, there will be no FCC charge for future upgrades and administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address. Most current licensees, therefore, will not be charged the new FCC application fee until they renew their license or apply for a new vanity call sign."

ARRL previously reported that the new \$35 application fee for amateur radio licenses will become effective on April 19, 2022. Further information and instructions about the FCC Application Fee are available from the ARRL VEC page at, https://www.arrl.org/fcc-application-fee.



# 2022 January Board Meeting Minutes

January 4, 2022, CARC board meeting;

Present: Ernie K8RCT, Hope AA8SN, Mark KC8ZAP, Scott W1XJ, Glen W8SGZ, Ward N8WK, Joe N8CN, and Drake N8DM

#### Meeting called to order at 7:01pm

- 1 Approval of minutes from November board meeting
- 2 Bell ringing follow up
  - a. Ernie will get back to us on the amount raised.
  - b. There was an anonymous donor that gave \$500 that was matched by the Salvation Army.
- 3 Send Dues reminders
  - a. Discussion on best way to do this.
  - b. Ward will give Joe N8CN the database on members so that he can incorporate the personalized forms into the Swap notice for members to update when they renew.
- 4 Repeater Updates
  - a. Joe N8CN says the UHF repeater is in process.
  - b. Drake worked on the Kenwood repeater which is working.
  - c. Goal is to change Fusion for multimode system and install new analog controller that can link to other systems.
  - d. Glen is pushing for establishing relationship with TV 7&4 using emergency communications as the best means to accomplish it.
  - e. We need to give prior warning whenever we go and work on the repeater. February?
  - f. Glen made a motion to upgrade the 440 seconded by Drake. All in favor.
- 5 Swap Progress
  - a. Joe N8CN will be out of town Thurs Monday. Scott will take over.
  - b. Ward is to check for availability for set up Friday night.
  - c. Ward will meet with the custodian to set up an appt to go over directions for our use of the building--locks, floor, etc.
  - d. Joe N8CN has flyers for advertisement of the Swap.
  - e. Door prizes--Scott will call DX Engineering to see if they will donate something. We also have ARRL gift certificates.
  - f. Joe has a floor plan of tables. The committee members plus maybe vendors will set up.
  - g. Ernie will call Steve to see if he and his wife are willing to do concessions this year.
  - h. Joe N8CN says the sound system is already at the school.
- 6 Election of Officers
  - a. Discussion of possible other presidents as Ernie would like to retire. Pete Vandenberg?
  - b. Ward made a motion to endorse current slate except to combine corresponding secretary and recording secretary which Hope will do. Scott seconded the motion. All in favor.
- 7 Program
  - a. Ernie suggested we might want a short program after the election.
  - b. Glen offered to do network radios
- 8 Adjourn Ward made a motion to adjourn at 8:23 pm seconded by Scott.

Submitted by Hope AA8SN



# 2022 February Board Meeting Minutes

Feb 1, 2022 CARC board meeting;

Present: Ernie K8RCT, Mark KC8ZAP, Scott W1XJ, Glen W8SGZ,

Ward N8WK, Joe N8CN, and Drake N8DMH

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm

1 Treasurer's report; 2022 dues are starting to come in. 32 paid so far

2 Approval of Jan minutes: Approved

- 3 Swap Update
  - a. Ernie will purchase an entry sign
  - b. Door prizes: Variety ordered including a VNA, SWR bridge, SDR radio dongles
  - c. Set up/take down--we will meet with St Francis staff about set-up/take down,tentatively we will set up Friday evening.
  - d. Donuts! Weavers again will have food items/coffee this year.
  - e. Registration table buckets for 50/50 drawing and registration tickets are in club room.
  - f. 50/50 drawing?
- 4 February Program
  - a. Drake will talk about All Star, a new way to access the repeater via the net.
- 5 White Pine Stampede
  - a. Saturday, Feb 5 meet at Shirley's in Mancelona at 8:30 am.
- 6 Mesh Net update
  - a. All set for net controls. Drake will assign duties
- 7 Repeater Update
  - a. Joe E. will meet with management of TV 7 & 4 to introduce ourselves.
- 8 Adjourn Adjourned at 8:30 PM

Minutes taken by Ernie: submitted by Hope AA8SN



# When is the next SWAP – N – SHOP?

### **2022 Great Lakes Division ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest Calendar**

April 24<sup>th</sup>, Athens Hamfest, Athens OH May 5<sup>th</sup>, Wexaukee ARC Cadillac Hamfest, Cadillac, MI May 20<sup>th</sup>, Dayton Hamvention, Xenia OH May 21<sup>st</sup>, GMARC Trunk Swap, Shelby Township, MI June 4<sup>th</sup>, IRA Hudsonville Hamfest, Hudsonville MI

### CARC Membership Application form

## **Coming Highlights**

<u>April</u>

MiQP APR 16 Club Meeting APR 26

May

Board Meeting MAY 3

Cadillac Swap MAY 5

VE TESTING MAY 14

HAMVENTION MAY 20-22

Club Meeting MAY 24

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	
Send Form To: Cherryland ARC PO Box 987	<ul> <li>\$24 Single Membership</li> </ul>	bership (same residence))
Traverse City MI 49685 or just bring it to a meeting!		Membershin

Seeking a new License? Want to Upgrade? The next CARC VE session is on May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Traverse Area District Library, upstairs in Study Room D, from 1:00 to 3:00. You will need to register ahead of time with Hope AA8SN, and be sure you have your FCC FRN number in advance. Contact <a href="https://doi.org/10.1001/journal.com">HopeAA8SN@gmail.com</a> for more information and to get signed up!

### **CHERRYLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

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

Cadillac's swap is back in May this year but in a new location - please see the swap flyer attachment.

I am hoping the flyer can be forwarded to all your club members, newsletter - oh, heck...share it with the world!

73's

Carol Warnock KA8LHI

231-884-8038

Wexaukee Amateur Radio Club Treasurer Box 163 Cadillac, MI 49601

FOOD and PARKING at the school!

See WWW.WexaukeeARC.org for more details!

# Cadillac Amateur Radio And Computer Swap



ON SITE!

NEW LOCATION SEE MAP ON BACK PAGE

ARRL CARD Saturday May 7, 2022 CHECKER

MEETINGS FOR U.P.NET

Doors Open at 8:00 A.M.
Admission \$5.00
MACKINAW TRAIL MIDDLE SCHOOL
8401 S. MACKINAW TRAIL

Talk In 146.98 Repeater K8CAD (no pl)

Tables must be paid for in advance. Any tables that were not purchased in advance will be on a
first come first served basis at the door at 6 am.
Table Request (8 foot tables):

Number of tables =	X \$12 each
Everyone has to have a ticket:	
Number of Tickets =	X \$5 each
	Total:
Your Name and Call:	
Address:	
Your E-Mail Address:	
Please mail a shock payable to "Moyayl	roo Amatour Padio Club" and this completed form to:

lease mail a check payable to "Wexaukee Amateur Radio Club" and this completed form to:

#### Wexaukee Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 163

Cadillac, MI 49601

Table issues can be discussed with Don or Jan at dlabrenz@comcast.net or 231-206-5691.

Set up starts at 6:00 am on Saturday. Set up can be pre-arranged for Friday night. We are setting up on Friday night also and have staff on site until 6 pm or so.

Special Requests:					
Offical Use: Request #	Received Date	Check	Cash	Amount	