

BIG RAPIDS AREA

APRIL 2006

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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Technician License Class A Success

Thanks to our co-chairs, Phil Marcotte and Jake Spence, our Technician License Class was a success. Phil and Jake worked hard to organize and supervise the class. A total of 6 hams (Matthew Trombley, Fritz Pins, Jeff Barstow, Don MacConnel, Phil Marcotte and Jake Spence) took turns teaching sections of the Technician Manual. On most nights 10 students were present. In addition to the students, several hams from our club came out to offer support or stories of ham radio interest. We also must mention Tom Behler's Monday night CW class. Thanks, Tom, for working with the students and improving those Morse Code skills. Our thanks to all who participated in, taught, or supported this class. We have at least 4 new hams in our club as a result of your efforts. Keep up the good work.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW HAMS

We are proud to announce that the following students passed their exam and are now "hams" among us.

Milan Greenman KC8DID
Robert Tyrybon KD8DIA
Michael McKay KD8DIB
Larry Bell KD8DIE
Steven Cowan, KD8DHZ

Okay, it's only a matter of time before you start studying for your General class license. Once the ham radio bug bites, you'll be looking for more and more privileges. Good luck, and welcome.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Technician License Class | 1 |
| Club Nets | 1 |
| Field Day | 2 |
| April meeting minutes | 3 |
| Note from President | 4 |
| George Rouman Library | 4 |
| Annual Club Dinner | 5 |
| Skywarn training | 5 |
| ARPSC meeting notes | 7 |

ANNOUNCEMENTS-CALENDAR

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| BRAARC breakfast 29 April 0830 | 1 |
| BRAARC meeting Thursday May 4th 1900 | 5 |
| Mini-Ham Fest/Picnic | 6 |
| Board meeting | 6 |
| Emergency committee 11 May | 8 |
| Ham Fests | 8 |

CLUB NETS

440 NET Sundays at 7:30 PM

2 Meter Net Tuesdays at 9:00 PM

ARES/RACES Net 2nd and 4th Wednesday at
9:00 PM on the 2 Meter repeater.

If you want to be the net control station, for 2 meter or 440 nets, contact Tom Behler KB8TYJ
email: kb8tyj@arrl.net or phone 231-592-9854

SIGN UP FOR NET CONTROL STATION

BRRARC YAHOO group is up and running, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/braarc> and click on "Calendar" link and go to January and February to see the Net Control stations, only ONE date filled so far, please signup by notifying Tom KB8TYJ.

The next Club Breakfast will be at
Chuck Wagon in Reed City
April 29 Saturday at 0830

FIELD DAY IS COMING

The plans are already in the works for another great FIELD DAY. Don't forget to set aside the weekend of June 24th and 25th. The FIELD DAY event will be held at our usual location at the Big Rapids Public School Superintendent's Office. Food, friendship, fun, and frequencies are guaranteed. Jake Spence and Tom Behler are co-chairs for the 2006 event. They are going to need a lot of help organizing, setting up, operating, and tearing down. Please come forward and let them know that you are willing to help out. Only two more months to go!!
T-SHIRTS ARE NOW ON SALE!!

The 2006 Field Day T-shirts are now on sale at ARRL. T-shirts come in sizes SMALL through 3XL and cost \$16.00. Field Day Pins are \$5.00. Please call Sue Behler, KC8IFP, at 231-592-9854 or send her the order form along with your payment by May 5th. Sue Behler, KC8IFP, 511 Spring Street, Big Rapids, MI 49307.

Check them out - they look good.

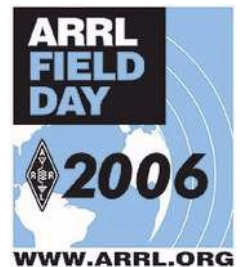
T-shirt \$16.00 Pin \$5.00

 Name and Call sign

I would like the following Field Day items:

| | | |
|--------------|-------|-------------|
| T-shirts | Size | Pins |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| \$16.00 each | | \$5.00 each |

Total amount due: \$_____



Congratulations and THANK YOU, Matthew Trombley, KC8VJR

Matthew Trombley, KC8VJR, the Club Vice President for the past two years is graduating from Ferris in May. Matthew has a job in Lansing and will be relocating very soon. He has informed the Board of his need to resign effective immediately. According to our By-laws, the Board of Directors is charged with appointing a replacement for Matthew. A Board meeting is scheduled for May 8th to discuss this situation. If any club member wishes to be considered for the Vice President position, please contact Sue Behler, KC8IFP before May 8th. Thankfully, Jake Spence, KI8CK, has volunteered to step in as Webmaster and is working with Matthew to take over those responsibilities. Thank you, Matthew, for all your help and support during the last several years.

We wish you much luck in the future. Best 73.

APRIL Meeting Minutes
by Jim Orlowski N8PUG

Meeting called to order by President Sue Behler (KC8IFP) at 7:00pm at the Big Rapids Public Safety Building.

Secretary's Report was read By JIM N8PUG and approved.
Treasurers Report was given by John KC8BAR and approved.

Announcements: Next Club meeting May 04-2006 at 7 pm.
Emergency committee Next meeting May 11Th 7pm central dispatch.
June 24 and 25,2006 Field Day. Contact Jake Spence KI8CK and or Tom Behler KB8TYJ.

Annual Club Dinner May 12Th,Falcon Head In Big Rapids 6pm social hour, dinner at 6:30pm. Cost is \$20.00 per person. Tickets must be purchased in advance for this event from club treasurer John KC8BAR.
The awards committee for the club dinner has met and Promises to have some interesting awards.

New business

Replacement for Vice President Matthew Trombley, Who has graduated from Ferris and has taken a job in the Lansing area. So he has resigned as Vp. Thank you to Matthew for all his hard work for the club
Kevin Streiter KC8ZRT Has indicated he would take over as VP to finish out Matthews term. The Board will address this issue at their next meeting Monday May8Th 2006 at 7pm. At the Behler Residence.

Program Field Day June 24 and 25 2006

Co chairing this year Jake Spence and Tom Behler.
We will need lots of help in setting up and also band captains.

We will be running 4a this year.Plan to join us and doing some operating.

Field Day t-shirt and Field Day PIN Orders are being taken now contact club president Sue Behler If you need to order one. Cost is \$16.00 for the shirts.

Next club breakfast will be April 29Th at 8:30am at the Chuck Wagon in Reed City.

50/50 winner was Sue Behler and she donated her winnings back to the club. Thanks Sue!

New Hams for the license class

Milan Greenman KD8DID

Robert Trybon KD8DIA

Michael McKay KD8DIB

Larry Bell KD8DIE

Congrats to the new hams be sure to say hello if you hear them on the air, and thanks to the instructors.

Board of Directors List

Sue Behler President - PIO
suebehler@yahoo.com

Matthew Trombley, Vice President,
Webmaster
trom9@fsuimail.ferris.edu

Jim Orlowski Secretary
n8pug01@yahoo.com

John McDowell, Treasurer and
Publicity Committee Chair
kc8bar@arri.net

Tom Behler - past president,
EC/RO Mecosta County
kb8tyj@arri.net

Gary Atteberry- past president,
EC/RO Osceola County
c_gatteberry@charter.net

Bev Callewaert Emergency
Committee Chair
callewaert@net-port.com

Gordon Trute, Newsletter editor
gordon-kc8wfx@usa.net

Fritz Pins, Past president,
Repeater Committee Chair
fpins@sbcglobal.net

George Rouman, Past president
w8own@arri.net

Don MacConnel Past president
don@omnitrack.com

GOTTING TO KNOW YOU?

Somewhere, out there, is a Club member just dying to try their hand at journalism. I just know it. These articles are a wonderful way for people to get to know other club members. They have been sorely missed in our recent newsletters. PLEASE consider taking a small amount of time each month to contact a club member and interview them for the newsletter. You never know what hidden talents you might have – and we would all thank you for your efforts. Please contact Sue Behler 592-9854 or Gordon Trute 796-5629 if willing to pick up the pen.

A Note From The President April 2006



I'll keep this note brief, because I know there are a lot of other reminders in this newsletter of things to do and events in the works. My main purpose this month is to encourage all of you to come on out to our annual club dinner. This event is a highlight of the year and gives all of us an opportunity to be together, have some fun, and recognize some people who contribute much to our club and our hobby. Falcon Head is a very comfortable dining room and the food is plentiful and delicious. The only change for this year is the need to purchase a ticket for the dinner ahead of time. We must know if you are coming to the dinner by the May 4th club meeting. John McDowell, our club treasurer, has the tickets and you can contact him to make arrangements.

One glance at this newsletter and you can tell that we have been busy - and that the next few months are going to be VERY BUSY. There are any number of things going on from which to choose. REMEMBER - A little bit goes a LONG way. Come on out and support your friends and the hobby of Amateur Radio by participating in a wonderful club event.

Looking forward to seeing you at all the fun activities. Have a wonderful spring - leading into a great summer.

SUE

KC8IFP

GEORGE ROUMAN LIBRARY

The George Rouman Library is a reality. Thanks to the donations of many club members, the following books were ordered as the initial components of the George Rouman Library. The books will be made available at all club meetings. You simply must sign out the book and return it when finished. What a wonderful way to honor a wonderful man. Let's hope that additional books are added as time goes on. These books should provide many of our hams with reference material as they pursue the hobby of Ham Radio.

| | |
|--|---|
| ARRL Handbook | ARRL FCC Rule Book |
| ARRL Antenna Book | Understanding Basic Electronics |
| ARRL Operating Manual | RFI Book |
| Radio Amateur's Satellite Handbook | Morse Code: The Essential Language |
| Now You're Talking! | Your Intro. to Morse Code (audio CDs) |
| ARRL General Class License Manual | NOAX's Radio Puzzler |
| ARRL Extra Class License Manual | ARRL Instructor's Manual |
| Transmitter Hunting | ARRL Map of the World (azimuthal) |
| Night Signals (fiction) | |

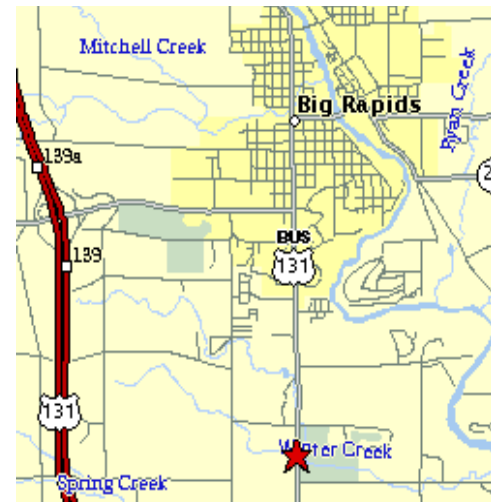
ATTEND THE ANNUAL CLUB DINNER ON MAY 12TH

The club's annual feast and awards banquet is set for Falcon Head Golf Club at 13120 Northland Drive (Old US 131) just south of Big Rapids. Be there at 6:00 pm for a get together and a chat. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm. The charge per person will be \$20.00 – this includes tax and gratuity. The tentative menu is as follows:

Roast beef in Au Jus
 Roast turkey with dressing
 Potatoes Au Gratin
 Mashed Potatoes with Gravy
 Tossed Salad Bar
 Macaroni Salad
 Vegetable, Rolls, Coffee, and Tea

A cash bar will be available.

You may make more than one trip to the banquet buffet.



GET your tickets by May 4th! Call John McDowell 231-832-2251 to purchase tickets and reserve your spot for the dinner. Tickets then can be picked up at the door, there will be a list of all who purchased tickets.

Next BRAARC monthly meeting
 Thursday May 4th at 7 p.m.
 In the classroom of the
 Department Of Public Safety building
 435 North Michigan Ave in
 downtown Big Rapids



SKYWARN TRAINING

Mike Heathfield, Chief Warning Meteorologist at the Grand Rapids Weather Service Office came to Big Rapids Tuesday evening, April 18th. For two hours he informed and entertained the crowd of ham operators and non-hams alike. Mike provided a lot of information on weather formation, the necessity for local spotters, skywarn activation, and much, much more. This is an annual event which typically draws a good crowd. It was wonderful to see so many ham operators in attendance. Now let's put that skywarn training to use. Our local calling tree which is activated in the event of severe weather, needs more participants. For those of you who might not be aware, certain entities in our local area of Mecosta and Osceola counties have requested that they be notified when severe weather looks imminent. A calling tree has been established to place phone calls to these entities. However, half the calling tree is blank. We really need more volunteers who would be able to listen to our skywarn nets, make phone calls of warning, and generally provide support for this very important role. Please contact Tom Behler, KB8TYJ, at 231-592-9854 if you are interested in joining our calling tree group.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

DINNER WITH CHUCK STARK

Come have dinner with Chuck Stark of the West Michigan Search And Rescue. We will have dinner at Bennigan's, at 5:30 pm, before the May 4th Club meeting. Chuck will provide a very interesting program that evening on the history of and methods employed in Search and Rescue operations. Please let Sue Behler know if you can join us for dinner. 592-9854

BOARD MEETING MAY 8TH

Board members - DON'T FORGET TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS for May 8th. A Board meeting has been scheduled at the Behler home for 7 pm. We have much to discuss. Please be there with your good ideas as usual.



GIRLS ON THE RUN

If you are interested in providing communications for the GIRLS ON THE RUN 5K race, please contact Tom Behler, KB8TYJ, at 231-592-9854. The event is scheduled for Thursday, May 25th. Registration begins at 4:30. The race occurs in the area of PT Plus and Woodward Ave. Please come and lend your support. This is the 3rd year we have done this, and the organizers really appreciate it.

MINI-HAM FEST/PICNIC AND MICRO FOX HUNT

Two of our great young hams, Kevin KC8ZRT and Justin, KD8CXQ, have planned a Mini Ham Fest, inside picnic and micro fox hunt. Starting at 8 a.m. on Saturday, May 20th, bring your ham goods or anything else you might wish to sell. The location is the Masonic lodge on 19 Mile just east of old 131 (at the flashing light). There will be no charge to get table space but it is somewhat limited and will be on a first come first serve basis. If we get crowded we will work the problem! In addition, bring any items, particularly ham gear, that you would like sold on eBay to benefit the club. A separate area will be provided for these items.

Also please bring picnic items to eat after noon when the sale ends. Beverages will be provided. After we finish our inside picnic we will, weather permitting, adjourn to Paris Park which is just north of the Masonic lodge on old 131. There, a wily but very low power fox will be hiding for you to try and find.

The fox's frequency will be announced at the picnic and will be on the 2 meter band. The name of the fox is a secret but will be revealed if you are clever enough to find him. Check into the 2 meter net on Tuesday's for more information.

Please support our fine young hams and the club in this fun family event!!

ARPSC MEETING NOTES FROM 25 MARCH Tom Behler: KB8TYJ, Mecosta County EC/RO

On Saturday: march 25, George Rouman (W8OWN), Sue Behler (KC8IFP) and I traveled to Lansing to attend the annual meeting of the Michigan Amateur Radio Public Service Corps.

1. We heard first from Dale Williams: Michigan Section manager. Dale urged us to encourage people to take the courses that have now been identified for complete RACES and ARES certification—basic skywarn, IS22, IS700, IS100, IS200, and IS800. He asked us to complete the training status base-line report by around April 1. This info will be re-visited and the report will be done again in June or July to see where we are.

Dale offered us a final challenge: try to run a net session using no ham jargon, no Q signals, and no abbreviations—keep it all in plain English. This, of course, is a main emphasis of NIMS.

2. We then heard from Jay Nugent (WB8TKL). Jay is from the Digital Radio Group (DRG). www.mi-drg.org is the web site for DRG. DRG has now begun an educational campaign about packet radio, how packet works, and what it can be used for. DRG is trying to move to a layered packet network scheme for the state. District 6's packet frequency is 147.58. DRG's network will support Winlink. DRG is planning to get additional packet gateway nodes up and running throughout the state in the coming months.

3. Marty Mendelson then turned our attention to the topic of training. He did his best to explain the rationale for upgrading RACES and even ARES certification standards throughout the Michigan section. New Michigan Section ARES/RACES certification Requirements:

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>ARES requirements: Valid amateur radio license Interest in serving in terms of providing amateur radio communications</p> <p>Strongly preferred courses: IS700—by October 1 of 2006 IS100—By October 1 of 2006 IS200—by the end of the 2007 fiscal year IS800—by the end of the 2007 fiscal year.</p> | <p>RACES requirements: Valid amateur radio license Successful felony background check IS22. Completion of RACES application form (if requested by your county) IS700—ASAP, and no later than Oct 1 of 2006 IS100—ASAP and no later than Oct 1 of 2006 IS200—ASAP and no later than end of 2007 IS800—ASAP and no later than end of 2007</p> |
|--|---|

4. Marty Mendelson urged everyone not to forget about the October 7 Michigan SET exercise. The exercise will involve a state-wide power outage. Repeaters will be good for an hour, after which time they will fail, and we'll have to resort to simplex and other tools to relay traffic, such as hf county-to-county liaisons. The SET exercise will last approximately four hours. The importance of reviewing NTS traffic procedures and message format was also emphasized both for the SET exercise and generally.

Phonetic Alphabet

| | | | | | |
|---|---------|---|----------|---|---------|
| A | Alpha | J | Juliet | S | Sierra |
| B | Bravo | K | Kilo | T | Tango |
| C | Charlie | L | Lima | U | Uniform |
| D | Delta | M | Mike | V | Victor |
| E | Echo | N | November | W | Whiskey |
| F | Foxtrot | O | Oscar | X | X-ray |
| G | Golf | P | Papa | Y | Yankee |
| H | Hotel | Q | Quebec | Z | Zulu |
| I | India | R | Romeo | | |

Ultrasonic Power Line

Arc

Detector
Electronic project:
Wanted! Others who want to build this detector as featured in the April 2006 QST. Please contact Gordon, he will supply the parts, at 795-5629 or email: gordon-kc8wfx@usa.net. This will detect an arc sounds around 40kHz.

BRAARC Web Site

The secure web page for members only is bigrapidsarc.net

. You may use this page to view/read/print future newsletters online. This will have color pictures and will be easy to read. Your user name will be your call sign. Please send Jake Spence KI8CK, the password that you want to use so that he can add you to the list. Contact him at :
jakeaspence@charter.net

Those who no longer wish to receive a paper copy should let the Editor know and provide him with an email address so he can send out a reminder when the newsletter is posted to the website. Contact Gordon at :
gordon-kc8wfx@usa.net

Hamfests Michigan -

Cadillac 6 May 0800-1300 Amateur Radio and Computer Swap Wexaukee Amateur Radio Club
<http://members.fortunecity.com/wexaukee>

Talk-In: 146.98 - (no tone)

Located at Cadillac Junior High School

Midland Hamfest: 17 June 0800-1200 Location at Gerstacker Fair Center on the Midland County Fairgrounds. The site is just north of US 10 on Eastman Road, directly across from the Midland Mall.

Vendor set-up is at 6:30 am, with doors opening for the public at 8:00 am. Tickets are \$5.00.

For further Information & Table Reservations (\$5.00 each) contact us at:

MARC Hamfest

Bill Albe, N8FUZ (989) 835-4142 or e-mail:

billalbe@chartermi.net

Lee Hodges, KC8ITI (989) 652-6213 or e-mail:

lahodges@voyager.net

TAKE THE BUS TO DAYTON 2006

The ARROW Communication Association of Ann Arbor is sponsoring a bus trip to Dayton. The bus leaves from Ann Arbor Saturday, May 20, 2006 at 4:30 am. It arrives in Dayton at 8 am. You can spend the whole day at the Hamvention and then board the bus at 5 pm for the return trip. The cost of the bus trip is \$60.00 - which does not include your admission to the Hamvention. Go to www.w8pgw.org or call 734-238-0544 for more information.

Next Emergency committee meeting May 11th at 911 building, Central Dispatch. Bev WD8PFC

ARES/RACES Training – go to <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWep/IS/is22.asp>

HF test net – This is statewide, on the 2nd Tuesday each month at 7pm on 3.932 MHZ on LSB.

