

BIG RAPIDS AREA

February 2006

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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Search & Rescue Group

Announcing the first meeting of a local search and rescue group.

An informational meeting will be held on March 7th, 2006 at the Big Rapids Public Safety building at 226 N Michigan Ave. The meeting will begin at 7:00PM.

This is a recruiting information meeting. Future meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of the month thereafter. Amateurs are especially welcome to attend, being their communication capabilities are extremely important to conduct searches efficiently.

During a search, there is to be at least one communication person on each search team as well as at the incident command center. When West Michigan Search and Rescue is called out to an incident, 9 out of ten that turn out are Hams.

As of this writing, there are twenty-five people interested in attending this first meeting. If you have any questions, please call me at 592-5251. Fritz- NI8E

ARES net, Wednesday: February 22 at 9 p.m. On the 2-meter repeater, This will be a debriefing on the Red Cross Communications event.

The phonetic alphabet training will be held on Wednesday: March 8.

Please share your thoughts on our shelter communications operations. Constructive critical observations and suggestions are very welcome. I'm particularly interested in how the operation sounded from the outside, and how it was experienced by those who participated more directly in it. Hope to hear many of you Wednesday evening.

Best 73 from Tom Behler: KB8TYJ,
Mecosta County EC/RO

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ANNOUNCEMENTS-CALENDAR

BRAARC meeting 2 March 1900	5
BRAARC breakfast 25th February 0830	1
Ham Fests	8
Skywarn Training 18 April	5
Emergency committee 11 May	8

CLUB NETS

440 NET Sundays at 7:30 PM

2 Meter Net Tuesdays at 8:00 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
Big Boy in Big Rapids
February 25th 0830

Technician License Class

The Winter, 2006 Technician License Class has gotten off to a GREAT START. Even with a little change of plans for the first night, there were 7 students in attendance. Due to a scheduling problem, our first class was held at City Hall, in the Community Room. Matthew Trombley KC8VJR and Fritz Pins NI8E were the instructors for that evening. They got the students started in the course and answered a number of questions about ham radio in general. Luckily the following week, when our class was held at the usual location of the DPS classroom, most of the students returned and we even had an additional 4 students. Our youngest student is Gregory, the son of Jim Woolen, K4UIH. Good to see you there, Gregory, and we know you will have many great hours of ham radio experience with your dad there to guide you. Don't worry, I'm not going to mention who the oldest student is.

The second class meeting was led once again by Matthew KC8VJR, but this time Jeff Barstow WD8DLK joined the teaching staff. As always, Jeff entertained the students with stories of silos and tower climbing. Oh yes, he also taught them a lot about propagation and antennas. A variety of instructors have been scheduled throughout the 8 week course. If you happen to have some time on Wednesday evening, drop by the DPS building at 7 pm. You'll see some excellent instruction going on, and have the chance to encourage a group of enthusiastic prospective hams.

THE J-POLES ARE COMING! THE J-POLES ARE COMING!

Yes, it is true, the long-awaited J-poles are being completed as we speak and will be on sale at the March 2, 2006 club meeting. Much thanks to Gary Atteberry, WB8WIA and Fritz Pins, NI8E for making this a reality. Folded, the antenna is only about 20 inches long so you can pack it with no difficulty, yet be able to open it to full size in less than a minute. This J-pole had been featured in the March, 2005 issue of QST. Check it out. The price for the J-pole is \$30.00 and includes a handy storage pouch sewn by our own Bev Callewaert, WD8PFC. Those who pre-ordered the J-poles will have first crack at them. There should be plenty for others who are interested.

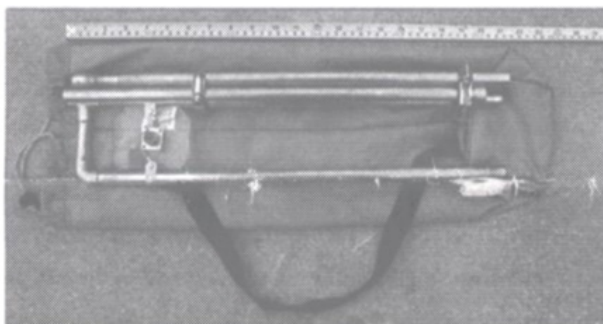
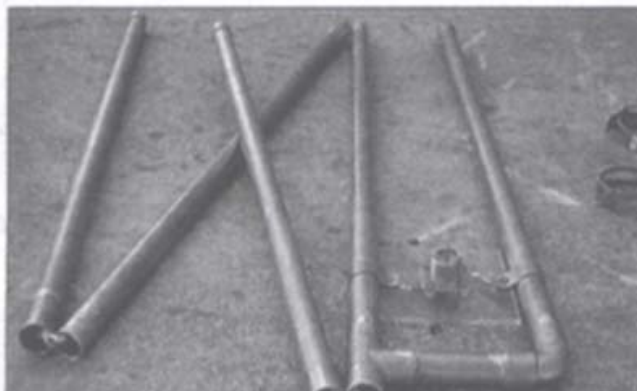


Figure 1. The completed folded J-pole ready for action.

December Meeting Minutes
by Jim Orlowski N8PUG

Board of Directors List

Meeting called to order by Sue KC8IFP, At Big Rapids Public Safety Building, At 7:00pm. No Guests

Informal Chat: Sue Kc8ifp and the members welcomed new member Tom Bray, wb8cox. Treasurers Report was read By John, Kc8bar and approved.

Announcements: Girls on the run event will be Thursday May 25Th.
Sky warn training will be Tuesday April 18Th at 7 pm at the Big Rapids Public Safety Building Classroom.

Repeaters: @ meter back up is on the bench being tested. 440 needs to be check for a problem.

License Class: Had 7 people attend the first session.

Future Programs :March2,06 Dale Williams WA8EFK ARRL Michigan Section Manager.
April 6Th Field Day Discussion
May 4Th Search and Rescue Chuck Stark
June Final Field Day discussion

Annual Club Dinner Will Be at the Falcon Head on May 12Th.

New Business A thank You from George Rouman was Passed around.
Tech corner: Kevin KC8ZRT Had a Motorola micor he bought on ebay to show everyone.

Next club Breakfast will be Feb 25Th at the Big Boy in Big Rapids.
50/50 winner was JIM Woolen K4UIH.
Net control sign up sheet is now on the yahoo Group.

Program was by New Member Tom Bray wb8cox a video of his clubs field day operation last year.

Adjourn 8:40 pm

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

DECIMAL – BINARY

1	0001	6	0110	11	1011
2	0010	7	0111	12	1100
3	0011	8	1000	13	1101
4	0100	9	1001	14	1110
5	0101	10	1010	15	1111



A Note From The President

As I sit here writing this note, it is snowing, raining, sleeting, lightning, and thundering. Oh yes, this is Michigan. We never know what to expect - but we can be prepared for anything. That is the name of the game for Ham Radio Operators. Just ask my husband, Tom, who made sure he had all his HT and portable batteries charged up last night in preparation for today's storm. I hope you are getting yourself prepared for a great year with Ham Radio. We have many wonderful events scheduled - and more to come for sure. Please be sure you are ready for the year by paying your 2006 dues. I would hate to see this newsletter be your last one - and more importantly, I'd hate to have you no longer be a part of our great club. We need all of our members, and we need your support to make the club strong and viable. Please get your \$25.00 dues payment to John McDowell as soon as possible.

I'd like to take this chance to WELCOME Tom Bray to our membership. Tom, WB8COX, joined our club at the last meeting and we are happy to have him as a new member. Tom has a wealth of ham radio knowledge and I know we are going to be very glad he has moved to our area. Please say Hi to Tom if you hear him on the repeater - and offer your welcome as well.

Our Technician License Class is coming along very well. We have a consistent 7 or so students who have been in attendance each week. The members who have acted as instructors are doing a great job. We are all looking forward to the VE session on Saturday, April 1st. Here's hoping we have several new hams to welcome to our club at that time.

The March 2nd meeting is proving to be a great one. You won't want to miss this event. If you haven't had time to attend a meeting recently - come on out for the March meeting. Dale Williams, WA8EFK, ARRL Michigan Section Manager, will be our guest that evening. Come and have dinner with us at Bennigans before the meeting. Then follow us over to the DPS building where you can hear Dale talk about any number of Ham Radio concerns. He will leave plenty of time for your questions, and answer them to the best of his ability. This is sure to be a highlight in our program schedule for the year.

Another reason to come out and attend the March meeting is to pick up your J-pole. There should be at least 10 finished J-poles available that evening. Some have already been spoken for, but for a price of \$30.00 you could take an extra one home with you. Thanks to Gary, WB8WIA and Fritz, NI8E for making this project a reality.

VE Session, Annual Dinner, Field day, Search and Rescue, construction event, summer picnic, fun-filled meetings - are all waiting for you. Come and participate in this great club and this great hobby. We look forward to another wonderful year with you as a member.

Take care and best 73,

Sue Behler

KC8IFP

YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THE MARCH 2ND MEETING

Dale Williams, WA8EFK, ARRL Michigan Section Manager will be at our March meeting to talk with everyone. Dale, and his wife Judy, are traveling to Big Rapids and will provide information about our Michigan Section; talk about many ham radio concerns; and answer whatever questions you might have. You certainly do not want to miss this important meeting. Mark it down on your calendars right now. And while you're doing that - decide if you'd like to go to dinner with Dale and Judy. We are planning to have dinner at 5:30 at Bennigan's in the Holiday Inn. Please come, join us, and show Dale what a wonderful, active club we have. The dinner is at your own expense. We will then travel to the club meeting at the DPS building, 7:00 pm as usual. Get those questions ready - here is your chance to get some answers.

Next BRAARC monthly meeting
 Thursday March 2 at 7 p.m.
 In the classroom of the
 Department Of Public Safety building
 435 North Michigan Ave in
 down town Big Rapids.



Skywarn Training is scheduled as follows:

Date: Tuesday, April 18, 2006 Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Place: Big Rapids DPS - multi-purpose room...435 North Michigan, Big Rapids

Even if you aren't technically from Mecosta county, you can attend this session if you need it to keep your certification as a trained skywarn spotter current. Remember, we like everyone who will be active in skywarn work to have training at least every two years. In addition, please remember that new spotter ID cards will be issued at this training session as well. Thanks, and best 73 from Tom Behler: KB8TYJ, Mecosta County EC/RO

Radiological Training – 0730 25 April at MSU in Lansing.

RACES requirements: To be a member of RACES you must provide a copy of your Amateur Radio License, complete the FEMA IS-22 online course, have a clear criminal past as indicated by a Felony Background check, and you must complete a RACES registration form obtained from your county Emergency Co-Ordinator.

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.

2006 YEARLY DUES MUST BE PAID BY MARCH 1st

Please don't make this issue of the newsletter your last

Your dues payment WAS DUE JANUARY 1, 2006. If dues are not paid before March 1, 2006, your name will be dropped from active membership. Send in your dues payment right now so that your membership will not be interrupted. Thank you for your continued support of our club and the hobby of amateur radio.

Call: _____ Class: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

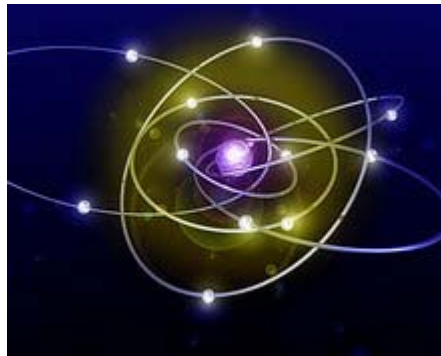
E-mail Address: _____

Dues \$25.00 for 2006. _____ Donation: _____

Dues payable by NOW. Checks should be made out to the Big Rapids Area Amateur Radio Club (BRAARC). Mail your check and this form to John McDowell, KC8BAR, Treasurer, P.O. Box 116, Reed City, MI 49677 or bring your dues to a meeting.

THE END OF HAM RADIO! or the NEW QUANTUM HAMS?

The WIRED web site reports that ..University of Michigan scientists have created the first quantum micro chip.



QUANTUM ENTANGLEMENT AND ENCRYPTION

Quantum entanglement is a phenomenon that Einstein famously dubbed "spooky action at a distance." In short, an entangled pair of photons have quantum properties that are linked to each other. If one photon's spin is up, the other must be down. So if you generate an entangled pair of photons and then separate them by any distance—from a few nanometers to thousands of light-years—you can collapse the wave function of one by detecting its spin direction and you'll know instantaneously the spin of its entangled partner. In such a scenario, the information about the spin of the entangled particle travels faster than light, which is a problem for quantum mechanics and is why Einstein didn't like entanglement.

HAM OF THE YEAR

It is that time once again to think about nominations for Ham Of The Year. To give you a brief history, we started the Ham Of The Year award two years ago. The award is meant to recognize one of our own members who goes above and beyond the call of duty. That member actively promotes the spirit of Ham Radio; is available to all for assistance and support; displays the personal and professional ethics of Ham Radio; and has made significant contributions to the benefit of our club. The award is accompanied with a \$25.00 gift certificate from Ham Radio Outlet. The first recipient of this award was Jim Orłowski, N8PUG. Last year, the award was given to Tom Behler, KB8TYJ. Now it is time to look for another member who fits this description. I can tell you that the hardest part will be narrowing the choices. We have many, many fine members who can be counted on to do whatever is necessary, and who show, by their example, the best of the Ham Radio spirit. Please give this nomination some serious thought, and fill out the following nomination form. We need to make this decision by the time of the Club Annual Dinner, which has been scheduled for Friday, May 12th at Falcon Head. You may bring this form to the next club meeting, or mail it to :

Sue Behler, KC8IFP, 511 Spring Street, Big Rapids, MI 49307

Please help us pick our next HAM OF THE YEAR.

HAM OF THE YEAR

I would like to nominate _____
for HAM OF THE YEAR.

Here are the reasons for my nomination:

signed _____

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		

From KE4NYV.com

BINARY NUMBERS

The table shows the first 12 number places in binary and their decimal counterparts. Binary is set in Base 2, which just means 2 to the power set. Example: 2⁵ = 32

Binary													
Base 2	2 ¹²	2 ¹¹	2 ¹⁰	2 ⁹	2 ⁸	2 ⁷	2 ⁶	2 ⁵	2 ⁴	2 ³	2 ²	2 ¹	2 ⁰
Decimal	4069	2048	1024	512	256	128	64	32	16	8	4	2	1

BRAARC Web Site

The secure web page for members only is now up at 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 Matthew the password that you want to use so that he can add you to the list. Contact him at : trom9@fsuimail.ferris.edu

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

Marshall 18 March 2006

CLUB PATCHES

Club patches are available at a cost of \$5 a piece, \$3 of each patch will go into the club's repeater fund, so buy a patch and support our local repeaters. Patches can be ordered from John McDowell KC6BAR our club treasurer.

**Donate Your Old Equipment to Raise Money for BRAARC**

Kevin Strieter (KC8ZRT) will be selling donated items on EBay to raise money for the Big Rapids Area Amateur Radio Club. If you have any items that you would be willing to donate, please contact Kevin (phone: (231) 591-7116, e-mail: stri13@fsuimail.ferris.edu). This is a great way to unload your unwanted items, and it will help the club as well.

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

