

Big Rapids Area Amateur Radio Club

June 2014

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Presidents Message

The last four President's Messages have been quite personal in nature partly so that you could get to know

me better and partly because I am feeling very nostalgic at the ripe old age of 70. This month's message is going to be more of the same.

It's hard to believe that my youngest son, Gregory (KD8NRO), will graduate from high school on June 1st. He will be leaving for college in Minnesota mid-August. Now that he got his driver's license about six weeks ago, he is on the move constantly in his mother's car.

My youngest granddaughter, Christina, also graduates from high school in June. She is going to college to become a physical therapist. She and Gregory are both 18 (she's 6 months older). In high school she was a cheerleader and active in all kinds of groups.

My youngest daughter, Caitlin, leaves on May 28th for a "study abroad" in Scotland. She will be in London for a couple of days before heading to Edinburgh. She will be there almost three weeks and earns seven credits towards her Elementary Education degree.

The only thing I had to do was pay for the trip and credits (ouch!).

My eldest granddaughter is moving to Hawaii in September because her husband is being stationed there in the U.S. Army for around two years. I'm not sure if I will get to see my great-granddaughter (6 months old) and my great-grandson (2½ years old) before they leave.

The summer semester at Ferris begins next week. Where does the time go? During the summer semester I will be building schedules for the spring semester.

Gregory and I will be attending the ARRL National Convention in Hartford, Connecticut in July. In addition to convention activities, we will tour League headquarters and the W1AW station. This convention celebrates the 100th birthday of ARRL.

As the late Paul Harvey would say in his famous radio broadcasts – "now for the rest of the story..."

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May's meeting was well attended, and the presentation on Windows XP and OS Security Concerns by Jim Furstenberg (Ferris State) was very informative and generated a lot of questions.

Please volunteer to conduct a net as it is not hard and it is a lot of fun. The two meter net is every Tuesday at 9 PM and the 440 net is every Sunday at 7:30 PM. The script (preamble) for conducting the net is on the BRAARC Web site. Also, one can be provided in print, if needed.

Don't miss the opportunity to eat breakfast with fellow hams on May 31st at Sharon's Restaurant in Rogers Heights. I hope to see all of you at our June 5th monthly meeting where Lt. Chris Karlin of the Salvation Army will talk about emergency disaster services.

May God bless and watch over each of you.

73s,

Jim
K4UIH

May Meeting Minutes – None to report

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Announcements:

May 31 – Saturday – Club breakfast at Sharon's in Rogers Heights, 9a.m.

June 5 – Thursday – Regular Club meeting at Big Rapids Public Safety Building – 7p.m.

June 21 – Saturday – Bulldog Bike Tour Communication Event - 8a.m. – 5p.m. Volunteers needed to cover the county

June 28 – 29 – Saturday, Sunday – 2014 Field Day event



BREAKFAST
Sharon's Restaurant
9:00AM
Saturday, May 31



Come order from the menu or
enjoy the breakfast buffet!!!

Amateur Radio Events for 2014

Delcy, KC8HVR

May

1 Club Meeting
3 Cadillac Hamfest
4 Eta Aquarids Meteor Shower
16-18 Dayton Hamvention
24-25 CQWW WPX CW Contest
19-25 IMS Special Event – HF (see note 1)

June

1 Chelsea Hamfest
5 Club Meeting
7 IRA Hamfest, Hudsonville
11 Lyrids Meteor Shower
14-15 ARRL June VHF Contest
14 Midland Hamfest
15 Monroe Hamfest
21 Lowell Youth Club Hamfest ARGYLE
28-29 Field Day

July

3 Club Meeting
1-6 13 Colonies Special Event – HF (see note 2)
1-7 Bicentennial of the Writing of the Star Spangled
Banner (see note3)
12-13 IARU HF World Championship
19-20 CQWW VHF Contest
21-27 IMS Special Event - HF
24 Delta Aquarids Meteor Shower
26 CMARC Outdoor Hamfest, Lansing

August

2 Club Breakfast
2 UP Hamfest, Escanaba
2-3 Arrl UHF Contest
2-3 N Amer QSO Party – CW
3 Seaway Trunk Swap Port Huron
4-10 IMS Special Event - HF
7 Club Meeting
10 Perseids Meteor Shower
16-17 N Amer QSO Party – SS
30 Club Breakfast

September

4 Club Meeting
7 N Amer CW Sprint
13 GRAHamfest Wyoming
13-15 ARRL Sept. VHF Contest
14 N Amer SSB Sprint
27 Club Breakfast

October

2 Club Meeting
15 Orionids Meteor Shower
18 Muskegon Hamfest
19 Kalamazoo Hamfest
25-26 CQWW DX SSB Contest
26 USECA Hamfest Madison Heights

November

1 Club Breakfast
6 Club Meeting
13 Leonids Meteor Shower
15-17 ARRL Nov Sweepstakes – SSB
?? Parade of Lights
29-30 CQWW DX CW Contest
29 Club Breakfast

December

4 Club Meeting/White Elephant/Christmas Party
5-7 ARRL 160 m Contest
10 Geminids Meteor Shower
13-14 ARRL 10 m Contest
31 ARRL Straight Key Night

Notes:

1. IMS special event is 3 contacts made throughout the summer and at the end you can get 1- 8 ½ x 11 photo of all three contacts for a small fee.
2. 13 colonies special event you contact all 13 colonies or a couple and you receive a qsl card for each contact and you can also get a certificate for a fee with all of the contacts you made throughout the event
3. This is a new event see ARRL **Jul 1-Jul 7, 0000Z-0000Z, W3FT**, Reisterstown, MD. Baltimore Amateur Radio Club. 7.205 3.825. QSL. Baltimore Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 120, Reisterstown, MD 21136. We will be operating as a sister station in the 13 colonies special event. www.w3ft.com

Bulldog Bike Tour

Saturday, June 21, 2014

Big Rapids, Michigan

The Bulldog Bike Tour is a great biking adventure for both families, single riders, and group riders to enjoy the wonderful scenery of rural Mecosta County while helping to support student scholarships. Leaving the Student Recreation Center (SRC) on the Ferris State University (FSU) campus, all routes wind throughout beautiful Mecosta County on excellent paved roads, passing by farms, scenic lakes, and through quaint villages. The first few miles all routes feature the paved White Pine Trail, northern Michigan's premier rails-to-trail. The scenic terrain varies from flat to rolling with a few challenging hills on the longer routes. So come, ride, relax, and enjoy all that this area has to offer.

Five Routes Available:

The routes offer an option of 10, 23, 40, 55, or 100 miles. The routes were selected after reviewing the MDOT Road Bicycling Guide Map and feedback from the Mecosta County Road Commission - the goal was paved roads that are the lowest in traffic volume and in the best pavement condition - while also touring through those areas which are the most scenic.

Tour Details:

- Well-marked roads on all routes.
- Detailed route maps provided.
- Roving SAG support for emergencies.
- Food stops with toilet facilities.
- Post-ride lunch.
- Showers at FSU Student Recreation Center.
- Bike techs available morning of tour for last-minute help at reasonable rates.

Start/Finish Location:

All routes start and finish at the [Ferris Student Recreation Center](#).

Additional Information:

By email: Write to Kelly Seitter, Professor in Construction Management at "seitterk@ferris.edu".

By phone: Call (231) 591-2659 for any additional information.

The Bulldog Bike Tour is sponsored by the FSU Alumni Office.
All proceeds support student scholarships.

Ham radio: Old technology gets new respect

By [Jonathan Serrie](#)

Published May 19, 2014

ATLANTA – Seeking reliable backup communication in a crisis, emergency managers are finding new solutions in an old technology: ham radio.

“It’s just another avenue, another opportunity for us to be able to communicate,” said Herb Schraufnagel, public safety captain with Emory University Hospital Midtown.

Emory HealthCare is among a growing number of hospital systems to adopt ham radio. Hospital administrators and government officials took a lesson from Hurricane Katrina, which left some Gulf Coast medical centers isolated from the outside world, as landlines and cell towers failed.

When power, phone and Internet services go down, a battery-powered amateur radio and portable antenna can provide that crucial link to the outside world.

“Ham radio will never die,” said Barry Thomas, Sr., a ham radio enthusiast and employee at Emory University Hospital Midtown.

“The quickest means of communication is Morse Code. It’ll get out when none of this will,” Thomas said, referring to a room filled with computers and smartphones.’

“It is interesting that some of the technology that has been around for 80, 90, 100 years is still relevant,” said John Davis, a ham radio enthusiast.

In addition to major hurricanes, Davis says the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 rekindled interest in ham radio as a public safety tool.

The Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) has set up a permanent ham radio station in its command center.

“We look at ham radio operators just like GEMA staff, just like DOT staff and Georgia State Patrol staff,” said GEMA Director Charlie English. “They are a critical partner with us.”

The number of ham radio licenses is at an all-time high in the U.S. (723,182, as of April, according to Federal Communications Commission (FCC) data compiled by Joe Speroni of the Amateur Radio Education Web Site, ah0a.org).

“I really hope that it stays relevant and that we can be a resource to emergency management agencies,” enthusiast Davis said. “Because I think that is where ham radio shines.”

Fox News producer David Lewkowict contributed to this article. (Referenced by Don, WA4FRJ)



It's June and the bee's are buzzin',
the trees are buddin', and the birds
are twitterpated.

June 2014
PO Box 343 Parts MI 49338

