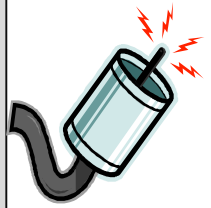




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Oakland County Amateur Radio Society
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President's Message, by Joe Miller KJ8O

I know, I know. The calendar may inform us that this is June, but one look outside the window tells us otherwise. With the cool temperatures and the amount of rainfall, one would think this is April 1 rather than June 1. But fear not, I understand that warmer weather is, eventually, on its way.

And with that is Field Day. A peek a Wikipedia reveals that Field Day is an amateur radio exercise. While many believe that Field Day is just another contest, in reality it is a combination of a number of activities. First involves setting up stations to operate in CW, digital and phone using non-commercial electricity. Being a 24 hour event, many bring along their tents, sleeping bags, ice chests, cooking supplies, insect repellent, sunscreen and whatever else you may bring along just like you were going camping for the weekend. The other big part of Field Day is often never thought about on the day of the event. For example, part of the evaluation process includes what steps that we as a club took to inform the public, not only of what we are doing, but to also invite them to be a part of it, and hopefully leave them with a positive impression of amateur radio. This also includes inviting elected officials, local as well as at the state level, to see first hand what we do. Also, probably the most important part is the ability to operate for long periods of time, just like is done in real emergencies.

Anyone who has ever work toward a common goal together with other teammates knows the level of excitement that can take place. Well, all I can say, it really is that much fun.

At the June meeting, a request will be made for volunteers, and hopefully we will have a good turn out.

Something not talked about yet for this summer, is the

Second Annual OCARS picnic. Last year, Doug N8VY and his wife were gracious enough to host this for the club, and I cannot see any reason why we cannot do this again.

I finally was able to purchase a copy of the FT5ZM DXpedition video, which occurred in January 2014, and was a very interesting but also very expensive DXpedition. This will probably be presented at the October meeting.

Also, Russ Simonson W8UZZ, our guest speaker for the May meeting had to reschedule due to the weather (I know, how many times have we heard that this year?) and he has agreed to try again in September.

And a little further down the road, Jerry Begel W9NPI has two more presentations that he would like to show to our members, including one on military communications.

If you like what we are doing as a club, please tell a friend. If not, please tell us.

Remember, there may not be any monthly meetings scheduled for July and August, but our Monday night nets will continue. Every Monday night at 8:00 pm on the Clarkston repeater, 146.840 MHz with a 100 Hz PL tone. Please feel free to join us if you can.

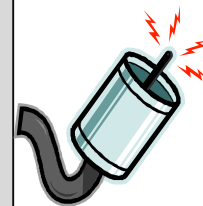
Also, this Saturday (June 6) Larry KB8POD is requesting volunteers to help with the severe weather siren testing that takes place at 1:00 pm. Please refer to the announcement within this newsletter.

Hope to see you tomorrow night.

VY 73 de Joe, KJ8O, OCARS President



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Siren Testing:

June 6, 2015, at 1:00 pm. Please check into the Clarkston Repeater to volunteer

OCARS Meetings

Tuesday, June 2, monthly meeting at 7:30, Field Day

Tuesday, September 1, monthly meeting at 7:30, Russ W8UZZ will bring his mobile Jeep

Tuesday, October 6, monthly meeting at 7:30, vide of the FT5ZM DXpedition

Tuesday, November 3, monthly meeting at 7:30, to be determined

Tuesday, December 1, monthly meeting at 7:30, annual election

Meeting location:

Bethany Baptist Church, 1375 Hiller Rd., Waterford
doors open at 7:00, meeting begins at 7:30

Social Gathering:

Wednesday 10:15 – 11:30 am, Village Place restaurant
S.W. corner of Dixie Highway and Andersonville Rd., Waterford

Officers and Directors:

President:	Joe Miller KJ8O	Directors:	Tim Pepper K8NWD
Secretary:	Scott Craig N2OPQ		Al Bailey K8SIX
Treasurer:	John Eldred N8FNN		Fred Holmes W1SKU
Trustee:	Brad Nowak N8SNM		Jim Vigne KB8TXZ

OCARS Net:

8:00 pm (local time) on the Clarkston Repeater, 146.840 MHz, p.l. tone 100 Hz,
Joe KJ8O is net control and welcomes participation from all area hams.

Checkins:

Dates are local time, Monday evenings, with number of check-ins, and NCS:

- May 4	<u>22</u>	KJ8O	- May 18,	<u>21</u>	KD8TXZ
- May 11	<u>22</u>	KJ8O	- May 25,	<u>16</u>	KJ8O

Website:

www.gsl.net/w8tno maintained by webmaster Scott Craig N2OPQ

Contact information:

w8tno.ocars@gmail.com or kj8o.ham@gmail.com (for an immediate response)

Great Lakes Division:

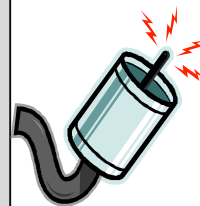
<http://www.arrl-greatlakes.org/>

Michigan Section:

<http://www.arrl.org/sections/view/michigan> (updated on the 15th of the month)



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Upcoming Hamfests

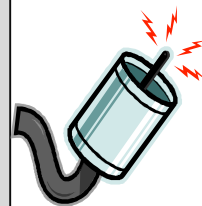
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|-----------------|---|
| Jun 6, 2015 | IRA Swap, Hudsonville, MI |
| Jun 7, 2015 | Chelsea Swap and Shop, Chelsea, MI http://www.wd8iel.com/ |
| Jun 20, 2015 | Midland Hamfest, Midland, MI
Salvation Army Building, 330 Waldo Rd., Midland, Michigan |
| Jun 21, 2015 | Monroe Hamfest, Monroe, MI
http://www.mcrca.org/index.php?page=hamfest&keep_session=2114201193 |
| July 9-12, 2015 | Michigan Section Family Outing, Hale, MI , MI Section Staff |
| July 18, 2015 | GMARC Summer Trunk Swap, Utica, MI
http://www.GMARC.org |
| July 25, 2015 | CMARC Trunk Sales, Lansing, MI
http://www.centralmiarc.com/outdoorhamfest.php |

Upcoming Contests and/or Operating Events

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| June 13-15 | June VHF Contest |
| June 27-28 | Field Day |
| June 30 – July 5 | http://www.13colonies.info/ |
| July 11-12 | IARU Championship |



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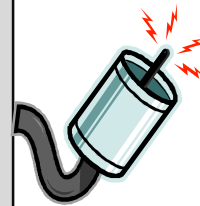


From the May meeting....





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OCARS Meeting Minutes for May 5, 2015
Scott A. Craig N2OPQ, Secretary

Members socialized from 7:00 to 7:30pm

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm by Joe KJ8O, president.

Business Meeting:

We had 38 people in attendance at the May meeting which included several (at least 4) new visitors. April meeting minutes accepted by Dan KD8TXZ.

The Treasurer's report was given by John Eldred, N8FNN. Motion to accept by Ken, W8KRS. Seconded by Chris, KD4LJT.

Old business: Jim. Golf Shirts \$23. If interested see Jim Vigne, KB8TXZ.

Four people turned in their scores for the Michigan QSO party. Together we had about 66,000 points.

We're still trying to find a room/place for regular kit building meetings. Working in cooperation with the Michigan QRP Club.

Note that ARRL Field Day is right around the corner. <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

Our special event call sign of K8O was approved. Additional details for our Field Day plans will be discussed at our June meeting.

The Milford Club continues to meet. They're having a special presentation on Thursday, 5/21/2015 at the Highland Senior Center on John Street.

New Business:

Joe accepted an appointment as the ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator in the Michigan Section.

Coffee break from 7:53pm to 8:15pm.

May Presentation – Ham Radio Internet Series

Original plans were to have W8UZZ show us his unbelievable Jeep radio installation. Due to the weather it's postponed. Tentative new date is the September meeting on 9/1.

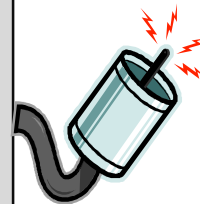
Tim, K8NWD, presented and discussed various Internet series of ham radio shows including "Ham Nation" featuring Bob Heil and Gordon West, Amateur Logic, Ham Radio Now, and SolderSmoke.com.

The 50/50 winner was Ernie, W8XW with \$24.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43pm.



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June 2015 Siren Test

What a great year this has been so far for checking the severe weather sirens in the Northwest Section of Oakland County. Due to the fine work of a lot of hams in our area, they have checked 65 sirens already this year. That leaves only 21 sirens and 4 hot sirens to still be checked.

The storms of this past week end show us how important it is that all sirens be checked. Rain and thunderstorms are one thing, but we all know how fast these conditions can change. People are spending more time outside now and they don't always have their radio on, so it is imperative that we continue to check the sirens so people can hear the warnings when outside.

There are 4 sirens and 1 hot siren to check in Brandon Township. Groveland Township has 4 sirens and 1 hot siren to be checked. Highland has 4 sirens still not checked. Independence Township has 2 sirens and 1 hot siren left. Rose Township has 2 sirens to check and Springfield has 5 sirens and 1 hot siren to be checked.

The siren test takes place at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday June 6, 2015. If you can check a siren, please email me at kb8pod@arrl.net or call me at [248-421-2617](tel:248-421-2617). With the help of all of you we can get all of our sirens covered for the year and know we have done our part in protecting our families and friends.