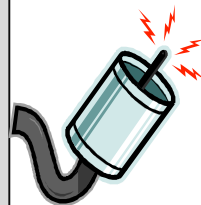


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President's Message, by Joe Miller KJ8O

I will admit it, it seems to be a recurring theme with me lately, to write "can you believe the _____ is almost over, and it's nearly _____"? We all have busy lives, so we have to enjoy radio as much as we can, whenever we can. Fortunately, 2016 will see the National Parks on the Air to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the National Park System. Unlike certain Worked All States nets that only recognize the 59 National Parks within the United States, this event will also include the National Battlefields, Monuments, Historical Sites and a number of other categories totaling 434 as I type this. And just like the ARRL Centennial Challenge, it will include a leader board, allowing users to see how they compare with other hams.

This will also be one of the discussion items at the December meeting, but OCARS has made arrangements to operate a special event station at the River Raisin National Battlefield Park. This site was chosen as it is only one of five in Michigan and located in Monroe, is also the closest to Oakland County. What I find very interesting about the site as it is the only National Park located at a War of 1812 Battlefield site.

More importantly, kudos goes to the eight OCARS members who have already submitted their logs in behalf of the club. These include:

AC8TE Mike
K8RGM Bob
KD8EWG Gary
KD8TXZ Dan

KJ8O Joe
N8GAS Greg
N8VY Doug
W8KRS Ken

Although logs are due on Monday, December 7 at 10:00 pm local, there is still time left to submit your logs. If you are not sure how to submit logs, please ask me or Tim at the December meeting, and we'll be happy to walk you through the process.

Another important item, club elections will be held at the December meeting, our tradition that goes back many years. Running for re-election will be our Treasurer, John Eldred N8FNN; our secretary Scott Craig N2OPQ; and for president, myself. We will, of course, accept any nominations from the floor.

Lastly, perhaps a very important item for all of us, not just in Oakland County, but the entire United States.... There has been some progress with Amateur Radio Parity Act (S. 1685). On November 18, it was endorsed by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Technology. I will bring some printed letters for Senators Debbie Stabenow and Gary Peters and members are invited to sign one of each, which will be forwarded to the ARRL when they go to Washington to lobby for this bill.

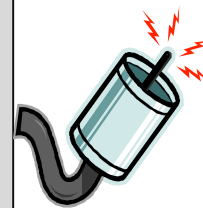
And a final reminder, ARRL dues will be increasing to \$49 effective in January. I know many of you may be on fixed incomes, and to soften the news a little, renewals will be accepted at the \$39 rate until the end of December. John Eldred N8FNN (OCARS Treasurer) is authorized to accept payment in behalf of the League, and for each year of dues collected, the club gets to keep \$2. So if you would like to renew your dues for 2016, you can help our club out at the same time.

VY 73 de Joe, KJ8O, OCARS President





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Siren Testing:

March 5, 2016, at 1:00 pm. Please check again for further information.

OCARS Meetings:

Tuesday, December 1, monthly meeting at 7:30, annual election
Tuesday, January 5, monthly meeting at 7:30, to be determined
Tuesday, February 2, monthly meeting at 7:30, to be determined
Tuesday, March 1, monthly meeting at 7:30, to be determined

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:

Nov. 2: 22, KJ8O	Nov. 23: 23, KJ8O
Nov. 9: 27, KJ8O	Nov. 30: 23, KJ8O
Nov. 16: 19, 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:

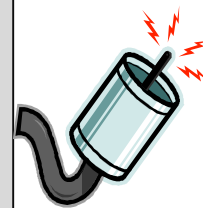
<http://www.arrl-greatlakes.org/>

Michigan Section:

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



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Upcoming Hamfests

Dec. 6, 2015 L'Anse Creuse Swap, Harrison Twp. (near Mount Clemens)

<http://www.qsl.net/n8lc/swap.htm>

Jan. 24, 2016 Hazel Park Swap, Madison Heights, MI (new site and date)

<http://hparc.org/> (flyer can be requested from
hazelparkswap@gmail.com)

Upcoming Contests and/or Operating Events

Dec. 1-15, 2015 Special Event Station W1Q to commemorate 100th anniversary
of QST (Magazine)

<http://www.arrl.org/news/december-special-event-w1q-will-mark-qst-centennial>

Dec. 5, 2015 Swywarn Recognition Day

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/mlb/?n=nwsse2015>

Dec. 12-13, 2015 ARRL Ten Meter Contest, CW and SSB

<http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>

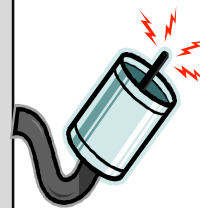
Dec. 31 – Jan 1 ARRL Straight Key Night <http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night>

Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2016 National Parks on the Air

<http://www.arrl.org/npota>



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OCARS Meeting Minutes for November 3, 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 25 people in attendance at the November meeting.

October meeting minutes motion to accept by Dan, KD8TXZ. Gary, KD8EWG seconded Carried Unanimously.

The Treasurer's report was given by John Eldred, N8FNN. Motion to accept by Dan, KD8TXZ. Seconded by Gary, KD8EWG. Carried Unanimously.

Old business:

We're still trying to find a room/place for regular kit building meetings. Working in cooperation with the Michigan QRP Club. Doug, N8VY spoke with the chairman of the electrical engineering department from Oakland University. They don't currently have a radio club. They were sending emails to the electrical engineering students to see if any were interested. Noted that University of Michigan has an active radio club.

Polo Shirts \$23. If interested see Jim Vigne, KB8TXZ.

Christmas party in December. We decided not to do a party, but to have people voluntarily bring some extra snacks. Doug, N8VY offered to bring in some prepared food.

New Business:

If anyone has any ARRL appointments such as VE, tech specialist, etc., let Joe, KJ8O know.

Continued discussion on becoming an ARRL special service club.

OCARS club elections are next month.

We went over donations from the club. Doug, N8VY, motioned for \$200 to donate to the church for letting us use their facilities. Greg, W8VIJ, seconded. Carried unanimously.

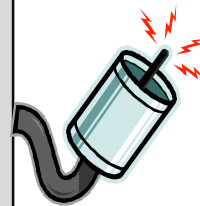
Ned, KD8FCB, motioned for \$250 to be donated to the Clarkston Repeater Association (CRA) as our club relies on the use of the CRA repeater. Ric, KD8QNZ, seconded. Carried unanimously.

Tim, K8NWD, motioned a club donation of \$100 to the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund. Doug, N8VY, seconded. Carried unanimously.

Sam, KD8DLV, is looking to see if anyone would be interested in hosting a fox hunt.



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OCARS Meeting Minutes for November 3, 2015 - Continued

Dave Pruett, President of the Mad River Radio Club, recently retired from his day job and is actively pursuing activities with the Mad River Radio Club again. <http://www.madriverradioclub.org/>

The third weekend of November is ARRL Sweepstakes. 21st to 22nd is phone. CW is this coming weekend. We have to get 5 people to enter their scores to get recognition for the club. Joe, KJ8O is willing to work with newer hams and give pointers on it. You don't lose credit when you put in for the club. Doug, N8VY, also willing to help.

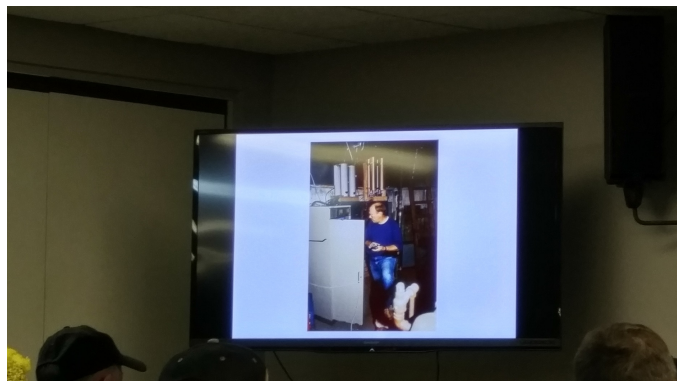
Tim Pepper, K8NWD, director and trustee of the Clarkston Repeater Association, will do a repeater etiquette training later in the year. <http://www.qsl.net/clarkston/page2.html>

-- Coffee break from 8:10pm to 8:30pm --

8:30 Feature presentation

Clarkston Repeater History
Tim Pepper, K8NWD (CRA Trustee)

Tim presented us with a slide show of pictures and excellent first hand information of the history of the Clarkston Repeater. It was Michigan's first repeater and began back around 1965.



The 50/50 winner was Dan, KD8TXZ. His share of the 50/50 came to \$29.

Meeting adjourned about 9:15pm.