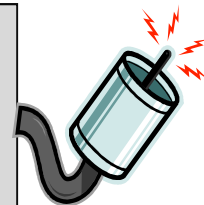




## ***The Feedline***

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### **President's Message, by Scott Craig N2OPQ**

I'm certain many of you will know what I mean when I say that summer seemed like a very long time when it was summer vacation from school as a young kid, but now summer feels more like a weekend. We look forward to an event, a contest, or a vacation. Soon enough those dates pass and we come upon Labor Day which for many marks the end of a summer theme even though astronomical summer has not yet ended. So here I am and I've yet to mount my mobile antenna and radio into a car I've had for a year now. I'll tell myself I was waiting for Fall weather anyway.

January 2017 was the first month I was club president and at our January meeting I wasn't prepared for a presentation, but prior to the meeting I did have a video ready to show with Rick Roderick, K5UR, who at the time the video was recorded was ARRL First Vice President. Rick was speaking at the ARRL National Centennial Convention in 2014. After the meeting I thought about how appropriate the video was. If you weren't able to make that meeting you can watch the video online at YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c7SQxUcx55w>

It's a 41 minute video that I found to be fun to watch. A video that can make you feel good with his shared experiences and memories, but most of all it's motivational. He talks about clubs. He talks about getting youth involved in the radio hobby, as well as other things I suggest watching the video to see what it is and see if it inspires many of us.

I bring this up because the upcoming inaugural Great Lakes HamCon is only 31 days away from our September meeting night. Speaking of Rick Roderick, he will be attending the Hamcon. Speaking of youth, Carole Perry, WB2MGP, who has moderated the Dayton Hamvention Youth Forum and Instructors' Forum for 30 years will also be at GLHamcon. Our club is being asked to volunteer at the HamCon and we will be discussing this during our September club meeting.

73 de Scott

### **Editor's comment by Joe Miller, KJ8O**

First, I owe an apology to the members of OCARS for not being as attentive to club matters as I have in the past. My mother-in-law passed away in March, and my poor wife who went to see her every night for five years. All too often she did not get home until 9:00 and many times later than that, after working at her full time job all day. Suddenly, we were found with some free time. The first part was the funeral arrangements, the second and unexpected part for me, was all the home jobs that were neglected for the past five years. Fortunately summer is drawing to a close, the days are shorter, the contest season is here, and am hoping to fall back into some of my old routines.

A major acknowledgement goes to both Larry KB8POD and to Chris KD4LJT for picking up the Monday night nets

The Great Lakes Ham Con is less than a month away, (Saturday and Sunday, October 7 & 8) and Doug N8VY is organizing OCARS volunteers. This will be subject of discussion at the September meeting, and Doug is requesting assistance. Please come prepared.

A number of us (Scott N2OPQ, Nathan KD8QWF, Jim KB8TXZ, Ned KD8FCB, Doug N8VY and myself – I hope I didn't miss anybody.) attended a preview of the Ham Con site in Brooklyn Michigan, and it is going to be not only GREAT but HUGE, as there is a lot of open land, for lots of vendors, but there will be quite a number of scheduled events as well.

The link for additional information follows:

<http://glhamcon.org/>

Interestingly, yesterday (Sept. 3) marked an anniversary of the Carrington Event (or the solar storm of 1859). Although, not required reading for any of the FCC exams, it is still interesting reading. If you get a chance, you may want to read about it.

That's all from my corner of the ham shack. Hope you have some good DX.

VY 73 de Joe



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### **Siren Testing:**

Saturday, October 7, 2017 at 12:30 for check-ins and 1:00 for the siren test. Please check into the Clarkston Repeater (see below for details). Larry KB8POD is net control.

### **Upcoming OCARS Meetings**

Tuesday, September 5, monthly meeting at 7:30, Great Lakes Ham Con, Doug N8VY

Tuesday, October 3, monthly meeting at 7:30, Propagation studies, Greg N8GAS

Tuesday, November 7, monthly meeting

### **Meeting location:**

Bethany Church, 1375 Hiller Rd., Waterford (between Cooley Lake & Commerce Rds.) 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:	Scott Craig N2OPQ	Directors:	Tim Pepper K8NWD
Secretary:	Ken Stuter W8KRS		Al Bailey K8SIX
Treasurer:	John Eldred N8FNN		Fred Holmes W1SKU
Trustee:	Brad Nowak N8SNM		Jim Vigne KB8TXZ

### **OCARS Net:**

7:30 pm (local time) on the Clarkston Repeater, 146.840 MHz, p.l. tone 100 Hz, Larry KB8POD and Chris KD4LJT are both alternate net control operators, and welcomes participation from all area hams. The OCARS net is now accessible through Echolink node W8JWB-R.

### **Net activity:**

Dates are local time, Monday evenings, with number of check-ins, time, and NCS: (Information is not available at press time, hopefully, we will have a report at the monthly meeting)

### **Websites:**

[www.gsl.net/w8tno](http://www.gsl.net/w8tno) maintained by webmaster Scott Craig N2OPQ  
<http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/oakland-county-amateur-radio-society>  
[www.qrz.com/db/w8tno](http://www.qrz.com/db/w8tno) And on Facebook!!!

### **Contact information:**

[w8tno.ocars@gmail.com](mailto:w8tno.ocars@gmail.com) or [kj8o.ham@gmail.com](mailto:kj8o.ham@gmail.com) (for an immediate response)

### **Great Lakes Division:**

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

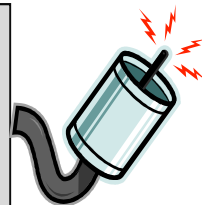
### **Michigan Section ARES:**

<http://ares-mi.org/>



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### **Upcoming Hamfests (all see flyers at end of this issue)**

- Sept. 9                      Grand Rapids GRAHamfest, Wyoming, MI  
<http://www.w8dc.org/2017GRAHamFestFlyer.pdf>
- Sept. 9                      Findlay, Findlay, OH <https://www.findlayradioclub.org/>
- Sept. 9                      Adrian, Adrian, MI <http://www.w8tqe.com/>  
**NOTE: new location this year, be sure to check their website**
- Sept. 9                      GM ARC Trunk Swap, Shelby Twp., MI <http://www.gmarc.org/wp/>
- Oct. 7-8                      Great Lakes Div. Convention, Brooklyn, MI <http://glhamcon.org/>

### **Upcoming Events**

- Sept. 9-17                      Route 66 On The Air [http://w6jbt.org/?page\\_id=15](http://w6jbt.org/?page_id=15)

### **Contests and Emergency Exercises**

- Sept. 9                      Ohio State Parks on the Air [www.ospota.org/ospota](http://www.ospota.org/ospota)
- Sept. 9- 10                      WAE DX Contest (SSB) [www.darc.de](http://www.darc.de)
- Sept. 9-11                      ARRL September VHF Contest [www.arrl.org/september-vhf](http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf)
- Sept. 23-24                      CQ Worldwide DX Contest (RTTY) [www.cqrtty.com](http://www.cqrtty.com)

Please see Page 84 of the September QST for a full listing of amateur radio contests.

### **Traders Net**

No listed items this month. Please feel free to bring items to our monthly meeting.



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### **Calculating Distance and Bearings**

A few years ago (before I joined OCARS) I worked with a group that was preparing for Field Day, and while determining where to place one of the antennas, I suggested a place only to hear “that’s more than 500 feet”. Turns out, the suggested site was within the 500 foot circle, but ever since then, I have been looking for various computer tools that can be used and which would remove any question.

[www.GeoLifeLine.com](http://www.GeoLifeLine.com) has a number of tools at their website including a distance and bearing projector. All you need to do is to enter the GPS Coordinates, for most of us that would be W42 degrees and the number of minutes rounded to three decimal places, and W083 and minutes. Then enter a bearing – zero for true north, 90 for true east etc. to a maximum of 359 degrees, and the distance in miles, yards, feet, kilometers or meters. The website will then determine the coordinates for you.

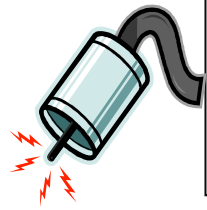
The Coordinate Tools has a dropdown select for Distance Calculator where both the starting and ending coordinates are entered, and the website determines the distance and bearing part.

Some of the practical uses for this service besides the Field Day 500 foot circle, include determining the range of a repeater signal. For EMCOMM purposes, if a half marathon utilizes ham radio operators at different waypoints, it might be helpful in selecting an antenna site for net control. A half marathon is 13 miles in length and covers an area no larger than about 3 by 4 miles. If NCS is located in the exact center, the far points should be no more than 2 to 3 miles away. If there is available land at the exact center, it may be interesting and useful to know the distances of each operator from NCS. Alternatively, if there is no available land at the exact center, the potential for larger variances in distances becomes apparent. This may be particularly useful if there are hills or tall buildings in the area.

Ham radio operators who are actively engaged in contesting may also be interested in measuring and evaluating antenna performance. Or if you have a tower and a directional antenna, you could determine the direction to point your antenna.

In closing, I have tried other sites, but to date, I believe this has been the easiest to use.

Respectfully submitted, Joe KJ8O



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**OCARS Meeting Minutes 06-06-2017**

**Douglas S. Basberg, N8VY, acting secretary**

**Meeting start time: 7:30pm**

### **Business Meeting:**

Secretary's Report was given by Doug, N8VY.

Prior meeting minutes motion to accept by Paul, N8LEF, Seconded by Rick, KD8ZMX

Treasurer's report was given by John, N8FNN.

Motion to accept by Don, WB8ZOM, Seconded by Dan, KD8TXZ

**Old Business:** Polo shirts \$23.00. If interested see Jim Vigne, KB8TXZ.

### **New Business:**

Latest OCARS Monday Night Net on Clarkston repeater at 7:30pm had 22 check-ins

Jim Vigne, KB8TXZ reported that a **six session CW code practice class** will start 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in September in Orion Township and continue each Monday from 7-9pm. There will be a \$5.00 fee. A sign-up sheet was passed at the meeting. All are invited and contact Jim Vigne, KB8TXZ or our president Scott Craig at [scraig248@gmail.com](mailto:scraig248@gmail.com). More info is available to those interested.

Meeting coffee break at 7:45pm

### **Presentation:**

Topic/Name: Field Day Planning Presented by: Jim Vigne, KB8TXZ

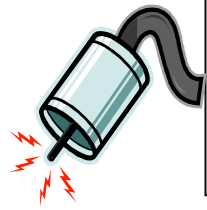
During Jim's slide presentation which provided background and requirements of field day operations, the following was agreed upon:

Operation will be at 'Springfield Oaks County Park', 12451 Andersonville Rd, Davisburg, MI 48350. Event commences 2pm on Saturday, June 24, 2017 and ends 1:59pm on Sunday, June 25, 2017. Some members will come Friday afternoon/evening to setup antennas and tents. On Saturday morning, all preparations must be completed for the field day event. Our president, Scott Craig, N2OPQ, has business obligations that may not allow him to attend. The on-site event co-coordinator is our past president Jim Vigne, KB8TXZ at the 40M station.

We did not have the equipment and man power to have a GOTA station this year. We will operate as 3A with a **40M station** run by Jim Vigne, KB8TXZ, a **20-80M station** run by Joe Miller, KJ8O, and a **CW station** run jointly by Sam Orlando, KD8DLV and Greg Stobbs, N8GAS.

The club encourages all OCARS members to attend, participate, and get on the air!\

There is no parking or entrance fee for the park for this event.



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### OCARS Meeting Minutes 06-06-2017 (Continued)

Various members volunteered to bring equipment to the event. It is possible to tent camp at the event between Friday afternoon and Sunday afternoon.

There is a lot of information about field day (rules, procedures, and methods) at the ARRL web site.

The more OCARS members attending and participating, the better! You are very welcome to participate or observe!

SEE YOU THERE!!!

#### 50/50 raffle:

George, KB8INW drew the ticket

Winner: Don, WB8ZOM

Meeting Adjourned at 9:02pm

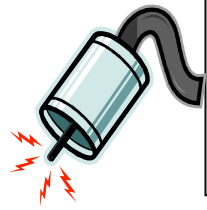
**BNLARC – K2BNL**  
BROOKHAVEN LABORATORY SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY EVENT

Pre PET Scanner, Brookhaven Graphite Reactor, National Synchrotron Light Source II, WWI Training, Camp Upton, Brookhaven Lab Today, Cockcroft Walton, Cosmotron Accelerator, Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider, High Flux Beam Reactor

**BROOKHAVEN**  
NATIONAL LABORATORY  
**70 YEARS OF DISCOVERY**  
A CENTURY OF SERVICE

CONFIRMING QSO WITH	DATE	UTC	MHz	Mode	RST
KJ80	2017-07-22	22:23	14	SSB	59





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### **BECOME A HAM RADIO OPERATOR!**

the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club offers a 10-week Course for  
The Technician (entry) Amateur Radio License Examination.  
(NO MORSE CODE REQUIRED)

WHEN: Mondays, Sept. 11, 2017 TO Nov. 13, 2017—7PM TO 9PM

WHERE: FOP Lodge 130, 2233 Burdette St., Ferndale, MI

COST: INSTRUCTION IS FREE; LICENSE MANUAL IS \$25, AVAILABLE FROM  
THE INSTRUCTORS AT THE FIRST SESSION.

FCC License EXAM WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE LAST SESSION (Nov. 13) FEE: \$15

**\*\*\*PRE-REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY\*\*\***

AMATEUR RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL! WE ARE AT THE CUTTING EDGE OF  
TECHNOLOGY! JOIN OVER 2.5 MILLION HOBBYISTS AROUND THE WORLD--  
-and in Orbit-- WHO ARE INVOLVED IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE,  
INTERNATIONAL FRIEND-MAKING, RADIOSPORT CONTESTS, DIGITAL  
SIGNAL PROCESSING, SATELLITE DESIGN/BUILDING. A GREAT PLAYGROUND  
FOR HACKERS/MAKERS.

CONTACT: W9NPI@ARRL.NET

SPONSORED BY

THE HAZEL PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, HPARC.ORG

**(Please contact Jerry if interest either the general or extra class as the  
dates and times are different.)**



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