

Oakland County Amateur Radio Public Service Corp (ARPSC)  
W8OAK Repeaters – 146.900 MHz/100pl & 444.325 MHz/107.2pl  
Weekly 2 meter net 8 pm every Thursday  
Hospital Radio Net – 7:30 pm last Thursday of Month  
Packet 144.950 MHz/1200 baud, connects made with Oakxxx or  
Callsign-# to OAKBBS (W8OAK-3) with nodes at  
OAKNOD (N8NM-1 Pontiac – most coverage),  
OAKEOC (W8OAK-7 at EOC) or K8DTX-7 (White Lake)  
APRS – 144.390 MHz  
Web Site: <http://www.arpesc.com>

### **Meeting Minutes for 6 May 2015**

On 6 May 2015 at 7 pm, Jim Richards - AB8JR, Emergency Coordinator (EC) for the Oakland County ARPSC, called the meeting to order in the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The order of business included:

#### **(I). Report from Bethany Kenney, Homeland Security Division – Oakland County and Skywarn Coordinator:**

Kevin Scheid is away at a Homeland Security Conference. Bethany urges members of Oakland County ARPSC to sign up for the OakAlert Emergency Notification System at <http://www.oakgov.com/subscribe/Pages/default.aspx>. According to their website, emergency messages of extreme incidents in Oakland County will be sent out by email or text messages to devices registered online.

Five hundred seventy three people took Skywarn training classes in 2015. If funding is available, a cardiopulmonary resuscitation class (CPR) will be taught later this year if a minimum of 9 sign up.

#### **(II). Report from the Emergency Coordinator (EC), Jim Richards - AB8JR:**

ARPSC Repeater: Steve Murphy – County Radio reported the troubled Addison and Davisburg receive sites were using old Motorola equipment and needed replacement. Jim added that given budget limitations, the two northern receive sites should be fixed first.

Oakland County Sirens checked this year: March – 72 sirens, April – 62 sirens, and May 57 sirens. Of this amount, 168 were the first time which amounts to 65% of the total sirens. This is fastest start ever and thanks go to every for their assistance.

WD8S – Mike Van Buren asked Jim to mention this year's Oak Apple Run in Royal Oak on Saturday, 30 May 2015. Amateur Radio volunteers will need to be at the race by 6:30 am with the race usually finished by 11:30 am. A pre-race meeting takes place

the preceding Wednesday evening at the First Methodist Church in downtown Royal Oak. Volunteers can contact Mike at [wd8s@comcast.net](mailto:wd8s@comcast.net).

### **(III). Presentation by Pete Gladysz – K8PGJ on the 2015 Michigan QSO Party:**

The Michigan QSO Party was held 18 April 2015 with Pete having a contest station at his house. A number of temporary antennas were erected about the property, including an 80-40 dipole, 20 meter beam, 2 meter vertical, and a 10-40 meter vertical. Transceivers included an ICOM 760, ICOM 746 Pro, Elecraft K3, and two Yaesu. Volunteers were AB8JR – Jim Richards, K8ED – Mark Shaw, WE8P – Fred Czubak, WF5X –Randy Love, K8GT – Gerry Tres, and K8PGJ - Pete Gladysz.

Their raw unofficial score for the contest was 283,550 points for a multiops operation and possibly a first place. They won a “Cabinet Counties Award” (named after Presidential members) for contacts in all ten Michigan Counties including Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Eaton, Ingram, etc.

Lessons learned for future improvements: Better separation is needed for 40 and 20 meter antennas and better stubs for all radios. The same applied to CW and SSB. The 40 meter vertical antenna didn’t play well during the contest, which was used for its 20 dB separation in relation to a 40 meter horizontal antenna. Antenna distances were still too close together.

### **(IV). Presentation by Pete Gladysz – K8PGJ on His Bora Bora, Tahiti Amateur Radio Dxing.**

Last April 2015, Pete traveled to Bora Bora for a vacation and to do some long distance amateur radio contacting. After researching the area, he chose to set up his dx station at the Bora Bora Intercontinental Hotel Resort in a cabin lying over a shallow sea-water lagoon. It took 3.5 months to secure a temporary Tahiti amateur radio license. He succeeded in reducing his total ham radio luggage to less than 50 pounds weight including 18 pounds for antenna and miscellaneous equipment. He chose to bring his Elecraft K3 transceiver (using 100 watts) and a Buddipole HF portable dipole antenna. Setting up his station and equipment on Bora Bora took only 45 minutes. One problem he couldn’t solve was his antenna cable had to go out an open cabin door and air-conditioning had to be turned off for better reception.

Pete contacted 59 countries, 50 states and 11/13 Canadian Providences for 1879 total QSO’s in 21.36 hours. He operated 2.4 hours/day and had 88 QSO’s/hour. In general, the bands were very noisy even with the AC off.

### **(V). Presentation by Jim Richards – AB8JR on the Oakland County EOC Renovation Project:**

Plans are being made to renovate our EOC in August or September, if the project is approved for funds. Current plans are to raise the floor in the main EOC to accommodate hidden wires, phone lines, and cables. This would be similar to the adjacent room which has our amateur radio equipment. Our radio space will be slightly narrowed, to include 5 new desk cubicles with wall dividers and a two foot wide ledge extending along the north wall for copiers, APRS equipment, and other items. Each desk will have four electrical outlets from two separate electrical sources in case one blows. Incoming cables and coax will meet at the 2 foot wide ledge and then redistribute to different desks. The large enclosed storage cabinet will be moved to another locked room. Jim showed members 3-D diagrams of what our space will look like.

If everything stays on time, the renovation will take six weeks, possibly beginning from June or August. During this time, a nearby room will be used for our temporary stations – the same room which in the past had been used for CPR classes. Our Packet system will probably not be fixed until after the construction is finished.

#### **(VI). AEC-Management Team Reports:**

##### **(1). Report from Pete Gladysz - K8PGJ, Operations**

Keep in mind the following dates:

6-7 June 2015 – Museum Ships on the Air. Pete and volunteers will be with the K8S station near Whitefish Point Lighthouse (near the Edmund Fitzgerald). The Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum is also at Whitefish Point.

8 August 2015 – Atlanta, Michigan. Summer version of the Sno\*drift rally. Details and name are incomplete.

14 August 2015 (Friday night) - City of Berkley Cruisefest 2015.

15 August 2015 (Saturday) - Woodward Dream Cruise.

##### **(2). Report from Jim Richards – W8JJR , SkyWarn**

Jim Richards – W8JJR states that there will be a Skywarn training class this summer. For details, contact Jim Richards – W8JJR.

##### **(3). Report from Mike Vander Veer – KD8ATK, Net Operations:**

W8OAK nets are held weekly on Thursday evening at 8 pm. More net control operators are needed and Mike will help you get started. If something happens, multiple nets may be needed to run at the same time. If interested, please contact or email Mike Vander Veer at [kd8atk@wowway.com](mailto:kd8atk@wowway.com).

##### **(4). Report from Ron Miotke – WD8MNX, Technology Systems/Membership:**

Ron has been active in licensing and VE sessions recently. Amateur radio persons with expired licenses can get back into ham radio by completing a technician licensing exam. They will possibly get back their old call sign. Ron wants to develop a core of individuals to do licensing, especially anyone who is currently approved for VE licensing examinations.

The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 – H.R. 1301 – is being considered in the US House of Representatives. According to the ARRL, this “would direct the FCC to extend its rules relating to reasonable accommodation of Amateur Service communications to private land use restrictions.” This includes homeowner’s association regulations and deed restrictions, called sometimes as covenants, conditions, and restrictions (CC&Rs). Please show your support for this.

Query: Marsha Fleming – N8FE notes that our current website still has her deceased husband’s name listed for contact to the SE siren subnet.

**(VII). Specialty Officer/Coordinator Reports:**

**(1). Report from Mark Shaw – K8ED, NTS**

The Southeastern Michigan Traffic Net (SEMTN) is held nightly at 10:15 pm on 146.760/100hz. Mark Shaw, K8ED is Section Traffic Manager. One can learn about handling information by listening to this nightly net.

**(3). Report from Al Clawson – KC8KJF, Hospital Communication Teams:**

Last week’s Oakland County Hospital Net had 12 check-ins. Volunteers are needed, in particular, for Providence Novi and Pontiac McLaren Hospitals.

Respectfully submitted,  
James R. Murphy, N8SML  
Secretary, Oakland County, ARPSC, 7 May 2015  
Minutes read, corrected, and approved by Jim Richards - AB8JR, EC