

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 3 June 2015**

On 3 June 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 Kevin Scheid, Homeland Security Division – Oakland County:**

Renovation of the EOC and ARPSC station will soon be underway, and the rooms unavailable to us for a while. The newest 2015 county grants focus on law enforcement support.

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

Wife of George Schutte – K8GEO is seriously ill. Our thoughts and good wishes go out to both of them.

Repeater status: A list of proposed repeater needs with estimated costs exists with Steve Murphy – Oakland County Department of Information Technology. Jim would like to obtain a copy in order to prioritize certain items.

Siren Testing: The next siren test is 6 June 2015. Approximately 168 sirens or nearly 2/3 of the total have already been checked for the first time this year. Both Jim and Dave Roberts – K8RDG hope the momentum continues. Volunteers are asked to check beforehand with their subnet coordinator to prevent duplications.

Query: Define a “hot siren.” This is a malfunctioning siren, sometimes working intermittently. Once this siren is repaired, it becomes a “hot siren” and needs an observer’s report.

Woodward Dream Cruise is coming up on Saturday, 15 August 2015, preceded the night before by the City of Berkley Cruisefest. Pete Gladysz – K8PGJ is coordinator

this year. A sign-up sheet was passed around to members. If interested in volunteering, please contact Pete.

EOC Construction Update: Radio equipment has to be out by Friday, 12 June 2015 for the construction process. Some equipment will go into storage. Two radios, one computer, and one antenna will be set up in the west conference room. Problem will be to get the antenna to the roof, which lets us communicate with the repeater on the tower. Minimum construction estimates are 4 to 6 weeks, but Jim thinks 8-12 weeks more likely. Both EOC main rooms will be redone.

Please note: Wednesday, **1 July 2015 ARPSC Meeting is cancelled, but there will be a Wednesday 5 August 2015 meeting** at the Executive Office Building. Remember, the regular EOC rooms are closed.

A little bit about 15-17 May 2015 Dayton Hamvention: Jim asked what attendees thought. He noticed that attendance was down. The Chinese amateur radios that Jim and Randy Love – WF5X had for sale did not sell well. He thinks this market may be saturated. The large van which transported hams from Ann Arbor to Dayton parked one night near the hamvention site and the driver was told by police at 2:30 am to move on.

Query – What is the best way to program one of the Chinese amateur radios? Jim Richards – AB8JR recommended the program “CHIRP” which is free software supporting a large number of manufacturers and models.

### **(III. Presentation by Pete Gladysz – K8PGJ on the 2015 Museum Ships Weekend Coming up:**

On 5-7 June 2015, “Museum Ships Weekend” will take place, beginning Friday night at 8 pm for 48 hours. This event is sponsored by the Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station. Certificates will be issued to amateurs who can work at least 15 of the 102 participating ships. The event will run on most of the ham bands, with 40, 20, 17 and 15 meters being the best. Operation can be on any mode, but best with CW and SSB. The K8H call is LS Huron – Lightship at Port Huron, Michigan. K8O is the USAT – LT-5 Tugboat/Cargo Transport at Oswego, New York. K8M is the SS Milwaukee Clipper Passenger ship at Muskegon, Michigan. K8E is the SS. Col. James M. Schoonmaker at Toledo, Ohio. Frequencies can be found on the website for the Museum Ships Weekend Event.

Pete Gladysz, Jim Richards, Mark Shaw – K8ED, and others will form a team returning to the Shipwreck Museum area at Whitefish Point (Lighthouse), Michigan. They will be K8S for the SS Edmond Fitzgerald Memorial. Plans are for as many as 5 portable towers including a 17 meter dipole, a 40 meter dipole, a 20 meter beam and a 15 meter beam antenna.

**(IV). AEC-Management Team Reports:**

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

On 8 June 2015, the First Annual Sno\*Drift Summer Rally will take place in Montmorency County. There will be 3 stages run 2 to 3 times for about 70 miles with a maximum of 25 entries. Amateur radio volunteers are needed and can sign up on the website. Pete also needs volunteers to sign up for the Woodward Dream Cruise.

**(2). Report from Jim Richards - AB8JR for Jim Richards – W8JJR , Skywarn (Yes, there are two Jim Richards):**

Skywarn was activated last week, but fortunately, bad weather avoided us.

**(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).

On checking in, give your call sign and location *slowly* so that net control has enough time to get it right. In fact, next time when a net takes place, take a piece of paper and write down everyone's call sign and location. See how many you get wrong. Net control has the same problem and asking to repeat a call-sign wastes precious time. Jim adds that anyone who finds himself really good at copying call signs, to please let him know. Randy Love – WF5X mentioned that the other night when Skywarn net was in operation, he found himself having difficulty calling in from his car. Please allow enough time for others to enter.

Query – Is there any professional mobile radio installers in the area? Answer, police must have a source for their installations. Check with them. Marsha Fleming - N8FE cautions that installers sometimes don't understand that electrical wiring to a mobile transceiver requires a fuse to be inserted and that the location for a ground needs to be carefully thought out.

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

**(1). Report from Dave Roberts - K8RDG, Sirens:**

Dave hopes to cover 40 more "first-time this year" sirens during the June Siren Test. This would be a huge help.

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

Mark has a new ICOM transceiver which should help him with better communications.

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

Both Novi and Southfield Providence Hospitals need hospital radio volunteers. He has several nibbles and is encouraging them to listen to the W8OAK weekly net. To volunteer, please contact Al at [kc8kjf@arrl.net](mailto:kc8kjf@arrl.net).

**(4). Report from Morrie Davidson – K8SJD, National Weather Service:**

May was a warm month with a high of 89 degrees which tied a record. May rainfall was 5.53 inches at metro airport and 6.4 inches at Morrie's house – about 2x normal. Randy Love – WF5X mentioned that Morrie is a member of the Quarter Center Wireless Association (QCWA) and that he is already has 30 years.

**(5). Report from Steve Walbrun – KD8WAA, Webmaster for W8OAK:**

Steve is our new webmaster and has already started to update the W8OAK website. This will be split into two divisions with one for membership sign-ups. He would like members to send him interesting photos related to the Oakland County ARPSC activities. Photos are a great way to recognize people and to show others what we are doing. He will have a fuller report in the August 2015 meeting.

**(V). Other Business:**

2015 June 20, Saturday – “Southfield Summer Solstice” 5 K Run/Walk, 10K Run and 1 Mile Family Sunset Stroll. Begins 7:30 pm at Lawrence Tech University Parking Lot C (front of Buell Management Building). Ham volunteers needed. Email to Jeff Graff – KA8PHP at [autoham@graffgroup.com](mailto:autoham@graffgroup.com).

2015 June 1 to December 31 – Dave Roberts – KD8RDG reports the Troy, Michigan Fire Department will be running an on-the-air amateur special event in celebration of their 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. They have already worked 20 meters for the last two nights and plan to be on 40 meters on selected nights. A special QSL card will be made available to hams that send a SASE to the Troy Fire Department c/o W8TFD, 500 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy, Michigan 48084.

Respectfully submitted,  
James R. Murphy, N8SML  
Secretary, Oakland County, ARPSC, 4 June 2015