

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 2 July 2014

On 2 July 2014 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 Steve Iannucci, Homeland Security Division – Oakland County:

Latest on the W8OAK repeater antenna problem: There was one repair quote for ~\$6000. One problem later surfaced with a new cable having to run under the building. Safety regulations require an expensive protective trench which will increase the cost to \$10,000. The repair has been put on hold until (1) a better alternate can be found or (2) until there is a lower quote or (3) possibly the cost can be split between two fiscal periods.

Woodward Dream Cruise is Saturday, 16 August 2014. Steve will be meeting with the Woodward Dream Cruise Committee on the 9th of July. This meeting may have more information about our amateur radio involvement.

JCC Maccabi Games will be held 17-22 August 2014 in Metro Detroit including Farmington Hills and West Bloomfield. Sponsors are not looking for communication assistance, but for “eyes and ears” during the events.

ARPSC meetings at the EOC: Steve asks members to not arrive before 6:30 pm. Also, when seeking information from the county about the repeater, all contacts must go directly to Steve Iannucci.

If members change their contact information (including email, phone number, etc.), please let Steve know. Member emails currently show a number of “kickbacks.”

Query: Has anything been found about the northern receive sites problems?
Answer: Not known yet.

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

A sign-up sheet for Woodward Dream Cruise was passed around at the meeting. Seventeen volunteered. Bob North is still at Berkley, possibly for one more year. Jim would like to talk to him and possibly meet his successor.

As of this meeting, one hundred thirty four sirens have been covered. Saturday, 5 July 2014 is the next siren test. To assist with siren coverage, go to our website to review which sirens need checking. Next, contact the subnet operator covering the siren and confirm with him/her that someone else hasn't been assigned. There are four subnets which cover Oakland County:

Southeast: N8FE – Marsha, DART repeater, n8fe@arrl.net

Southwest: WA8UMT – Rick, Novi repeater, rredoutey@twmi.rr.com

Northeast: KD8QPF – Brad, USECA repeater, bmaney61@yahoo.com

Northwest: KB8POD – Larry, Clarkson repeater, kb8pod@arrl.net

(III). Presentation – Museum Ships on the Air 2014 by Pete Gladysz - K8PGJ”

Museum Ships on the Air – 2014 was sponsored by “The Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station.” In order to get their certificate, one has to work at least 15 of the 104 participating ships. The event ran on most bands, but 40, 20, 17, and 15 meters on SSB and CW were best.

Pete joined a contest team to work this event. Included were Wes - AC8JF, Stan - AC8W, Ted - K8AQM, Pete - K8PGJ, Dave – KB8ECG, Brian – KG8CO, Don N8AMM, Lee – N8LJ, and Norm - W8TTH. Their call was “K8V” and base of operations at Sault Locks in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Four temporary antennas were erected - three beam and one 40 meter beam wire. Propagation was affected by an early Sunday morning solar flare making communication harder. Their results were 1930 QSO's on 40/20/17/15 meters.

Next year's plans are to operate as one of five ships formerly on the Great Lakes such as SS Morrell from Lake Michigan as K8M or Edmond Fitzgerald from Lake Superior as K8S, or some other ship from Lake Huron, Erie, or Ontario. These contests give practice and experience to amateurs and improve their skills of communication.

On 8-14 July 2014 is the World Radio-sport Team Championship 2014 (WRTC). It's an amateur radio contest for 24 hours between two-person teams, who use identical antennas from the same geographic region. This year in the USA, contesting will be from the Boston, Massachusetts area. This greatly reduces variables and focuses on operating ability. These two man teams are chosen by WRTC based on previous performances. The WRTC contest also coincides with the IARU HF contest. IARU operators may enter categories including QRP, Low Power (150 watts) and High Power.

The contest is a great opportunity to work a large number of DX stations on multiple bands.

(IV). Report – Field Day 2014 at White Lake National Weather Service (NWS) by Randy Love – WF5X:

Nine amateur radio volunteers participated in ARRL Field Day on 28-29 June 2014 from the NWS at White Lake. Volunteers were K8BB, K8ED, N8ZSA, W8FSM, WF5X, W8JJR, N8KIP, AB8JR, and WE8P. They used several antennas, including a permanent G5RV antenna mounted at the NWS. Bands included 80/40/20/15 meters with 40 meters giving the best results. There were a total of 1026 contacts, with 563 on the 40 meter band. Greatest number of contacts occurred near midnight. By state - New York, Pennsylvania, and Texas were winners. Foreign countries contacted included Switzerland, France, England, and Bahamas. Missed were Alaska, Northern Territories (Canada), and Northern Ontario.

(V). AEC-Management Team Reports:

(1). Report from Ron Miotke – WD8MNX, Technology Systems/Membership:

In an effort to boost activities and awareness at the ARPSC for amateur radio operators, the ARPSC will be performing VE examinations. Ron believes amateur radio license exams by our ARPSC are a good way to bring in new hams. There could be additional efforts in this area. The VEC will be W5YI. Already, the group has at least three volunteer examiners (VE's), and two more added names at the meeting. Jim Richards – AB8JR agrees this is a good resource.

Security on the Internet: Google Drive recently had to fix a data-leaking flaw. A security issue developed with its Google Drive service which could allow shared files to be accessed by unauthorized third parties. On 24 June, the Washington Post reported Microsoft resolved a ~10 hour outage on its Outlook for business users.

Amateur radio problems: FCC recently denied K8MAN his license renewal. This involved its "red light rule," which gives the Commission authority to turn down a pending application if the applicant has an unpaid fine on the books.

New members: Several new applicants are currently being processed for membership.

(2). Report from Mike Vander Veer – KD8ATK, Net Operations:

The W8OAK nets are held weekly on Thursday evening at 8 pm. More net control operators are needed. If something happens, multiple nets may be needed to run at the same time. Net control is a lot of fun and possibly can get you started as early

as this month. If interested, please contact or email Mike Vander Veer at kd8atk@wowway.com. He will help with your training.

(VI). Other Information

(1). Climb to the Clouds – Mt. Washington (New Hampshire) is 26-29 June 2014 with auto racing. It is reported that amateur radio volunteers assist the event.

Respectfully submitted,
James R. Murphy, N8SML
Secretary, Oakland County, ARPSC, 9 July 2014
Minutes read and approved by Jim Richards AB8JR, EC