



FEEDBACK

JULY 2010



Comments

Field day and the Fourth of July so close together, That's crowding too many activities into too little time. Of course, it so happens that the monthly newsletter needs to be gathered together with all the scuttlebutt known to man. It seems that this month even the scuttlebutt got scuttled with the result being a very lean newsletter.

In the next column, a letter that was received by Don, W8RVT, is shared along with a picture of Quincy and a friend.

The Fourth of July has a special meaning to Americans and we included two articles that honor the patriotism of that date. One shows the respect with which Harry Truman gave to his office and the other honors those men who signed the Declaration of Independence.

On July 9, Dave KC8COT and John W8JRD have arranged a Fox Hunt training session in which SMARS members participate. This will be simple and not very challenging as the purpose is to learn without being frustrated. This will be on foot at the Lakeview Elementary school at the corner of Riverside and Golden Ave. Fox Hunters from the Branch County Amateur Radio Club will be on hand to aid and teach the art of Fox Hunting.



Reflection of an old goat

:
"Ted Hartson" <awombat@earthlink.net>To:
w8rvt@aol.com

We didn't see too many Creekers in Dayton. Walt, Irv and Russ that was about it. I wanted to pass along my condolences to the Longmans and the entire ham community, Jerry was a one off and always ready to help. I first knew Jerry when we were both Cbers in the late 50's-early 60's he worked at Central FD station on Jackson and it was a frequent trip to see what he was up to.

I also saw the note about Quincy in the Feedback---more old memories, he lived in Urbandale and always was fussing with his 6 Meter rig — he would ask you to log his grid current and plate current to see what you liked the best. Just a sidebar comment that may not be known. Bill Schele JR. and I went to school together. Bill started working for Glenn White Heating (East Michigan and Palmer) right next door to my home, frequently Bill Sr. would come and pick him up. One day old Bill, who was about to retire for Michigan Carton, come over to see my radio mess, housed in the garage. It rekindled his radio interest as he had been QRT for many long years. Before long Bill got his call again.

The club calls then were W8MF Lew Saunders was a really old timer by then SK. The Marshall club used the Call W8QK. Because it is soon Field Day a little FD talk; Quincy working 6 Meters one night encountered a station with the suffix QBC---had a terrible time getting the right letters in the right order. Finally he hit upon Queer Beer Cans and finished it off with W8 Queer King over. Well those days are long passed, but listen for W8KHY. I am sure that he has some angels logging his 807s grid current.

Warm Regards to all. Here is a Quincy snapshot from years ago, don't remember who is with him Maybe a Dave from Kalamazoo. Yes, that would be a RG Dunn hanging from KHYS lips, he never left home without them. Ted WA8ULG or 19QA0391

Enjoy life— it has an expiration date!



WE WILL NEVER SEE THIS HAPPEN AGAIN..... BUT THIS IS THE WAY IT SHOULD BE....

Harry Truman was a different kind of President. He probably made as many, or more important decisions regarding our nation's history as any of the other 42 Presidents preceding him. However, a measure of his greatness may rest on what he did after he left the White House.

The only asset he had when he died was the house he lived in, which was in Independence, Missouri. His wife had inherited the house from her mother and father, and other than their years in the White House, they lived their entire lives there.

When he retired from office in 1952, his income was a U.S. Army pension reported to have been \$13,507.72 a year. Congress, noting that he was paying for his stamps and personally licking them, granted him an 'allowance' and, later, a retroactive pension of \$25,000 per year.

After President Eisenhower was inaugurated, Harry and Bess drove home to Missouri by themselves. There was no Secret Service following them.

When offered corporate positions at large salaries, he declined, stating, "You don't want me. You want the office of the President, and that doesn't belong to me. It belongs to the American people and it's not for sale."

Even later, on May 6, 1971, when Congress was preparing to award him the Medal of Honor on his 87th birthday, he refused to accept it, writing, "I don't consider that I have done anything which should be the reason for any award, Congressional or otherwise."

As president he paid for all of his own travel expenses and food.

Modern politicians have found a new level of success in cashing in on the Presidency, resulting in untold wealth. Today, many in Congress also have found a way to become quite wealthy while enjoying the fruits of their offices. Political offices are now for sale. (e.g. Illinois)

Good old Harry Truman was correct when he observed, "My choices in life were either to be a piano player in a whore house or a politician. And to tell the truth, there's hardly any difference!

I say dig him up and clone him!!

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INTERESTING

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Makes one stop and think of the caliber of these men compared to what we have today in our government.

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died.

Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army; another had two sons captured.

Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War.

They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

What kind of men were they?

Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well educated, but they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.

Thomas McKean was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.

Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. So, take a few minutes while enjoying your 4th of July holiday and silently thank these patriots. It's not much to ask for the price they paid.

Remember: freedom is never free!

CONTEST

During the recent Field Day exercise, several members were having a rough time communicating under contest conditions. The following contest will give you a chance to work a contest with a much smaller group of contestants. A good learning opportunity!

Ohio State Parks On the Air

At least, many the Ohio State parks will be on the air this coming September 11. This is the date chosen by the Portage County (OH) ARS(PCARS) for its third annual Ohio State Parks On the Air Contest. The day is Saturday and the time is from 12 noon to 8 PM -- 1600Z August 28 to 0400Z August 29. The object is to set up portable amateur stations in as many Ohio State Parks as possible and for stations not at parks to work as many park stations as they can.

Ohio and non-Ohio amateurs can compete for a variety of awards using the usual amateur bands of 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 meters. For further information, go to <http://parks.portcars.org>.

If you plan to operate portable from a park it will be a good idea to discuss your plans with the park administrator ahead of time.

GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats.
- 2) When your mom is mad at your dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
- 7) Never hold a dust-buster and a cat at the same time.
- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandpa's lap.

FOR SALE

Towers, Antennas, Radios
and miscellaneous

Call: Chuck, WD8LJF 269-964-3197

ARES / RACES Report for JUNE, 2010
in Calhoun County

RACES / Skywarn Nets and Training

8 Skywarn Training Nets 1hr each @ 186 People =186 hrs
1 RACES Meeting 1.5 hrs each @ 22 People = 33 hrs
Total 219hrs

Public Service Events

2 Siren Tests 1 hrs each @ 28 People = 28 hrs
1 Breakfast Table 4 hrs each @ 12 People = 48 hrs
Total 76hrs

Administration Hours

Total 30hrs

Emergency Operations

4 Server Weather Nets 4 hrs each @21 People = 84 hrs
Total 84hrs

Equipment Hours

RACES Trailer Maintenance 12 hrs @ 4 Person = 48 hrs
Total 48hrs

Travel Hours =

Total 4.0 hrs

Expenses- Out of Pocket =

Total \$75.00

Travel Miles =

Total 65 Miles

Members (ARES / RACES) =

Total 35

Total Nets,Events, Sessions =

24

Total Hours =

429

Contributed Value =

\$7937.00

Dave Smith
KC8COT
E-12
City of Battle Creek and Calhoun County
RACES, Emergency Coordinator

EVENTS for AUGUST

EVENT: Monthly Siren Test

DATE: Saturday, AUGUST 7th 2010
Time: 1:00PM (13:00hrs)

EVENT: Monthly RACES Meeting

PROGRAM: (Damage Assessment Training)

DATE: Tuesday AUGUST 17th, 2010
TIME 18:30 (6:30PM)

LOCATION BCPD Line Up Room

Dave Smith
KC8COT
E-12
City of Battle Creek and Calhoun County
RACES Emergency Coordinator
E-Mail: kc8cotham@aol.com
Tx: (269) 317-8440

(This was sent to KC8COT and is felt to make a lot of sense in making a weather net more efficient and effective.)

A survey was conducted on the air last night to find ways to improve our nets. Below is a list of tips in no particular order. I am sure there are others, but these include our biggest problems.

1. Do not file rain reports . (unless catastrophic)
2. Turn on "Net" courtesy tone when in directed net mode.
3. NCS should do H&W checks periodically. This means that if you haven't checked out, you are expected to respond when called.
4. Use enough transmitter power. Unless you are within a mile or so of the repeater, you won't get in with a HT when lightning is in the vicinity.
5. Use the correct repeater input for your location.
6. Investigate linking the local repeaters during the net.
7. Follow established criteria for reporting.
8. Have a valid amateur radio callsign.
9. Keep reports brief and simple. Think about what your are going to say before keying the microphone.
10. Don't forget to check in and out of the net.
11. Use a second radio (when possible) to monitor the quality of your signal into the repeater.
12. Don't cut yourself off by speaking too soon after keying your microphone.
13. Speak loudly and clearly. We have received many "weak audio" reports lately.
14. Don't announce every weather bulletin on the net. Usually Net Control already has this information and decides what to do with it.
15. Don't bother to report downed trees during a warning. Then only report trees that are completely blocking major roads. The only exception would be if it appears that a tornado or downburst has just occurred.
16. This is a Kalamazoo County net. As such, we are not interested in reports from other counties unless it will have an immediate and severe impact on Kalamazoo County. (i.e. Tornado, Macrobust, Derecho)

The net should be a quiet time, with stations only reporting severe events or when queried by the Net Control station.

Thanks for your consideration.
Art Snapper NK8X

HAMFESTS

Port Huron Seaway Trunk Swap

08/08/2010

Location: Vantage Point Parking Lot

5 Water Street, Port Huron, MI 48060

Sponsor: Eastern Michigan ARC

Talk-In: 147.300 (no PL tone)

Public Contact: Bob Herbert , K8WMW

819 Tunnel Street Port Huron, MI 48060

Phone: 810-982-1561

Email: k8wmw@arrl.net

Lapeer County Swap and Shop

08/15/2010

Location: Lapeer County Center Building

425 County Center Drive, Lapeer, MI 48446

Website: <http://www.w8lap.com>

Sponsor: Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

Talk-In: 146.620- (PL 100)

Public Contact: William Miller , KD8VP

3605 Pratt Road Metamora, MI 48455

Phone: 810-797-5329

Email: kd8vp@arrl.net

SARA Inside & Outside "Trunk" Sale

08/21/2010

Location: Baker College Welcome Center

1309 South M-52, Owosso, MI 48867

Website: <http://www.W8QQQ.org>

Sponsor: Shiawassee Amateur Radio Association

Talk-In: 147.02 (PL 100)

Public Contact: Don Warner , WB8GUS

10008 Lehring Road Byron, MI 48418

Phone: 810-266-4897 or cell 810-

Email: wb8gus@arrl.net

Income and Expense Statement

6/1/10 Through 6/30/10

Category Description	6/1/10- 6/30/10
INCOME	
50 50	11.00
Dues	10.00
Hamfest Inc:	
Facility	15.00
TOTAL Hamfest Inc	15.00
Interest Inc:	
Checking	0.82
TOTAL Interest Inc	0.82
TOTAL INCOME	36.82
EXPENSES	
Administration:	
PO BOX	22.00
TOTAL Administration	22.00
Equipment:	
Weather Station	256.72
TOTAL Equipment	256.72
Feedback:	
Postage	28.40
Printing	50.37
TOTAL Feedback	78.77
Field Day:	
Food	91.17
Fuel	27.50
Misc	4.20
Field Day-Other	37.87
TOTAL Field Day	160.74
Meetings:	
Refreshments	4.00
TOTAL Meetings	4.00
Rent:	
Meeting Room	50.00
TOTAL Rent	50.00
Utilities:	
Telephone	66.25
TOTAL Utilities	66.25
TOTAL EXPENSES	638.48
TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES	-601.66

SMARS Club Meeting

June 17, 2010

Called To Order: 7:04 PM

Officers Present: Bob AC8GL Don W8RVT John W8JRD Gary N8QC

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions

Secretary's Report: approved as published in Feedback.

Treasurer's Report: approved as reported at the Club Meeting.

Committee Reports:

Hamfest: No report.

Field Day: See New Business

ARES/RACES: Details of activity as published in Feedback.

Siren test July 3, RACES meeting July 20.

VE Testing: June 24 is the next exam session.

Technical Engineer: Weather station installed and working properly, other than not reporting pressure in inches of mercury in stead of mBar.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Fox Hunt: Larry WB8R and Arnie NS8T came up from the Coldwater club to give a briefing on the Fox Hunt being held July 10. Some sample rules were passed around and some sample gear was displayed.

Membership: Jim N8MVV asked about sending out cards to the hams near Battle Creek informing them about SMARS with the hope of increasing membership. Cards would need to be obtained and addressed, preferably not all by Jim.

Nets: Phil KD8KZB asked for someone to run the 440 nets on Saturday and Wednesday.

Field Day: A work party is needed to clean the trailers, make sure the equipment is in the correct trailer, and make sure the equipment works. There was some discussion about CW and a show of hands about who would actually be at Field Day.

Setup will be 3 PM on Friday, June 25.

Adjourned: 8:35 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

John Davidson W8JRD

SMARS Secretary

SMARS Board Meeting

July 5, 2010

Delayed from June 28, 2010

Officers Present: John W8JRD Gary N8QC

Not a quorum present, no meeting held.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Davidson W8JRD

SMARS Secretary

SOUTHERN MICHIGAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

FEEDBACK



JULY 2010

SMARS
P.O. BOX 934
BATTLE CREEK MI 49016

FIRST CLASS MAIL



SMARS NETS

Before Lunch Bunch
Monday-Friday 11:30 A.M.
146.66

Sunday Evening 8:00 P.M.
146.66

Monday 7:30 P.M.
224.24

Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
443.95 *NEEDS LEADER*

Wednesday 8:00 P.M.
28.365

Saturday 8:00 P.M.
443.95 *NEEDS LEADER*

ARES/RACES/SKYWARN.NET
Monday 7:00 P.M. 147.12

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

SMARS BOARD JUNE 28

SMARS BREAKFAST JULY 3

B4LUNCH BUNCH LUNCH JULY 8

HAMFEST PORT HURON JULY 8

HAMFEST LAPEER JULY 15

THIS MONTH SMARS CLUB MEETING JULY 15

HAMFEST OWOSSO JULY 21

SMARS BOARD JUNE 28

NEXT MONTH SMARS CLUB MEETING AUG 19