

The Feedline
Oakland County Amateur Radio Society
Organized 1937, ARRL affiliation 1962
Monthly Newsletter
April 2015



President's Message, by Joe Miller KJ8O

Why I ever chose accounting as my profession, I sometimes wonder if I will ever know, but that is not a topic for ham radio, but I will say that somehow I am getting through my busy season. I appreciate everyone's patience, having had some family issues going on as well. What I did want to mention is the increased attention being devoted to the intentional QRMers out there, the malicious interference. This past DXpedition to Navassa Island seemed to have an increased amount this time when compared to other recent Dxpeditions, and the organizers did come with a novel way of dealing with the issue where Dxers could report interference and using the reported direction and signal strength and a more scientific approach was used to attempt to locate the source. I have not heard whether or not any individuals were actually identified as a result of this process or not, but at least a step is being made.

Many have questioned why these individuals are driven into this behavior, and I wonder if any satisfactory answers are available. I can safely say that this isn't limited only to ham radio. How many times have we sat down to a nice meal in a restaurant and some nearby patron starts talking loudly into their cell phone? I have to believe the number of road rage incidents are increasing every year as well. I could go on all day.

Like many of you, I developed an interest in the hobby, partly as a way to relax from a hectic work schedule, partly because of the personal challenge of attempting to work for operating awards (WAS, DXCC, etc.), and a large part to learn about people not only in other parts of this world, but also within the United States. Several months ago, I had a very informative QSO with an operator living in rural Wyoming. Unless you live in one of the three largest cities in Wyoming, there is no mail deliveries to your home. In his case, the nearest

traffic light was only 35 miles away. The grocery store and the post office was 75 miles, hence he only made that trip once a week. He was also telling me how he had a vegetable garden that he maintained, and frequently went hunting and fishing for food. For communications, telephones, cable TV and internet are quite expensive, and many rely on using VHF or CB radios to communicate with neighbors, who may live miles away.

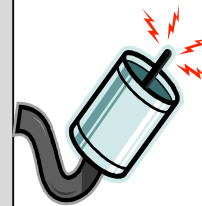
In 1928, Paul M. Segal W9EEA penned the very classic "The Radio Amateur's Code" which will be found in one of the later pages in this month's Feedline. I hope you get as much enjoyment reading this as I do. It keep me going.

I would also like to give a shout out to webmaster Scott N2OPQ and his son Nathan KD8QWF for recent improvements to the club website (www.qsl.net/w8tno). Please note that the results are better when using Google Chrome, or Firefox.





The Feedline
Oakland County Amateur Radio Society
Organized 1937, ARRL affiliation 1962
Monthly Newsletter
April 2015



Siren Testing: April 15, 2015, at 1:00 pm. Please check into the Clarkston Repeater to volunteer

Upcoming OCARS Meetings

Tuesday, May 5, monthly meeting at 7:30, Russ W8UZZ will bring his mobile Jeep

Tuesday, June 2, monthly meeting at 7:30, Field Day

No meetings for July and August

Tuesday, September 1, Monthly meeting at 7:30 Note this will be BEFORE Labor Day this year.

Meeting location: Bethany Baptist Church, 1375 Hiller Rd., Waterford
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:	Joe Miller KJ8O	Directors:	Tim Pepper K8NWD
Secretary:	Scott Craig N2OPQ		Al Bailey K8SIX
Treasurer:	John Eldred N8FNN		Fred Holmes W1SKU
Trustee:	Brad Nowak N8SNM		Jim Vigne KB8TXZ

OCARS Net: 8:00 pm (local time) on the Clarkston Repeater, 146.840 MHz, p.l. tone 100 Hz,
Joe KJ8O is net control and welcomes participation from all area hams.

Checkins: Dates are local time, Monday evenings, with number of check-ins, and NCS:

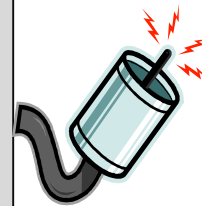
- March 2	<u>19</u>	KD8TXZ	- March 23,	<u>19</u>	KJ8O
- March 9	<u>14</u>	KJ8O	- March 30,	<u>18</u>	KD8TXZ
- March 16	<u>16</u>	KJ8O			

Website: www.gsl.net/w8tno maintained by webmaster Scott Craig N2OPQ

Contact information: w8tno.ocars@gmail.com or kj8o.ham@gmail.com (for an immediate response)



The Feedline
Oakland County Amateur Radio Society
Organized 1937, ARRL affiliation 1962
Monthly Newsletter
April 2015



Upcoming Hamfests

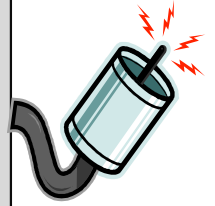
- May 2, 2015 Cadillac Swap, Cadillac, MI
<http://wexaukeearc.org/>
- May 9, 2015 CCRA-KCRA Hamfest, Chassell, MI (Upper Peninsula)
<http://ccraa.net/>
- June 6, 2015 Independent Repeater Association, Hudsonville, MI
<http://www.w8ira.org/>
- June 7, 2015 Chelsea Swap and Shop, Chelsea, MI
<http://www.wd8iel.com/>
- June 21, 2015 Monroe Hamfest, Monroe, MI
http://www.mcrca.org/index.php?page=hamfest&keep_session=2114201193
- July 9, 2015 Michigan Section Summer Outing Hale (Lupton), MI
(please see me if interested in attending, KJ8O)

Upcoming Contests

- April 18-19 Michigan QSO Party
- May 2-3 New England QSO Party, 7th Call Area QSO Party,
Indiana QSO Party, Delaware QSO Party
- May 30-31 CQ WPX (CW)



The Feedline
Oakland County Amateur Radio Society
Organized 1937, ARRL affiliation 1962
Monthly Newsletter
April 2015



OCARS Meeting Minutes for March 3, 2015
Scott A. Craig N2OPQ, Secretary

This meeting was canceled due to the icy road conditions that was predicted for the evening.

SIREN TEST ANNOUNCEMENT

The week of April 12-18 is the "Severe Weather Awareness Week" in Michigan. It is during this week that National Weather will be putting out a lot of information on what to do if there should be an incident of hazard weather. The schools will be made aware of how to handle a situation and the public will hear and see more about how to make preparations before and during bad weather.

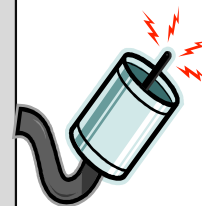
As Ham Radio operator we are being asked to check the "Early Warning Sirens" throughout Oakland County. Our main area is the Northwest Section of the County. Normally this test is done on the first Saturday of the month but it is being done on April 15. The sirens will activate at 1:00 p.m. I am asking anyone that can check a siren near your home or work place to please do this. I will be taking check ins at 12:45 p.m. and then I will take reports as soon as the test is complete. People have done a great job checking sirens so far this year. We still have 51 to check in our area. Brandon has 6, Groveland has 8, Highland Township has 6, Holly Township has 5, Independence has 4, Rose Township has 6, Springfield Township has 8 and White Lake Township has 8. If you can cover any of these sirens or would like to get a siren to check please email me at kb8pod@arrl.net or call me at [\(248\) 421-2617](tel:2484212617).

This is the time of the year for storms and the more we can do to let people be made aware of the possibility the better it will be for all our families and friends.

73, Larry KB8POD



The Feedline
Oakland County Amateur Radio Society
Organized 1937, ARRL affiliation 1962
Monthly Newsletter
April 2015



March 31, 2015

Greetings to the Hams of Michigan:

HR-1301

The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 -- H.R.1301 -- has been introduced in the US House of Representatives. The measure would direct the FCC to extend its rules relating to reasonable accommodation of Amateur Service communications to private land use restrictions. US Rep Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) introduced the bill on March 4 with 12 original co-sponsors from both sides of the aisle -- seven Republicans and five Democrats.

HR 1301 would require the FCC to amend its Part 97 Amateur Service rules to apply the three-part test of the PRB-1 federal pre-emption policy to include homeowners' association regulations and deed restrictions, often referred to as "covenants, conditions, and restrictions" (CC&Rs).

At present, PRB-1 only applies to state and local zoning laws and ordinances. The FCC has been reluctant to extend the same legal protections to include such private land-use agreements without direction from Congress.

H.R. 1301 has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), chairs that panel's Communications and Technology Subcommittee, which will consider the measure.

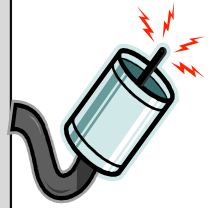
Once again it is time for us as constituents to write to our Congressperson and request that they support HR 1301 and consider signing on as a co-sponsor on this important piece of legislation.

All of the necessary information is available on the ARRL website here: <http://www.arrl.org/hr-1301>. On this webpage you will find everything that you need in order to contact and urge your congressperson to support HR 1301 and to sign on as a co-sponsor.

You will find a spot to determine who your Congressperson is and from there you can get the necessary information to complete the sample letter that is provided for you.



The Feedline
Oakland County Amateur Radio Society
Organized 1937, ARRL affiliation 1962
Monthly Newsletter
April 2015



Once again, we are asking you to send your letters (snail mail or email) to the ARRL for hand delivery to House members. This is important as a stack of letters from constituents carry a large impact.

The instructions are there if you choose print your prepared letter, sign it and snail mail to ARRL. If you choose to convert your signed letter to a PDF and email it to ARRL, you can save the cost of postage and envelope. The snail mail and email address for each method is on the website.

One tip for you: review the list of Congresspersons who have already signed on before asking him or her for support. Your letter writing may turn to a thank you letter if your representative has already agreed to become a co- sponsor.

This is the case in the 1st and 7th Michigan Districts as Congressmen Benishek and Walberg are co-sponsors. For those who live in the 1st and 7th district, please take a few minutes to send them your thanks for supporting HR 1301. You can easily thank them by going directly to their individual websites and emailing your thanks.

Asking for support is important, but it is just as important to thank them for their support if they become co-sponsors.

As you know, Michigan has just become the 31st to pass a PRB-1law, and HR 1301is the next logical step in the process. If we are successful in convincing the FCC to give us parity, then we will go back to the Michigan Legislature to update our PRB-1 law.

I ask that each of you who sends a letter requesting support of HR-1301 to send me a short email advising me that you have sent a letter to your Congressperson.

By doing so, you will help us to determine our effectiveness and coverage of our grassroots effort here in Michigan.

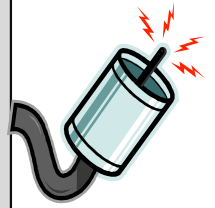
You can reach me at wb8r@arrl.org.

Thank you for doing your part in this important effort. Please passthis information to your local clubs and to your friends and family, hams and non-hams alike.

73, Larry, WB8R, ARRL Michigan Section Manager: Larry Camp, WB8R



The Feedline
Oakland County Amateur Radio Society
Organized 1937, ARRL affiliation 1962
Monthly Newsletter
April 2015



Announcing the 2015 Michigan QSO Party
Just Have Some Fun!!!!

- **Chance to get on the air**
 - **Single Op, Multi Op, Mobile, EOC**
 - **Be the station others want to work**
 - **Maybe activate a rare county?**

- **Excellent Club Activity**
 - **Reason to get together as group**
 - **New "EOC" station category**
 - **Excellent Training opportunity!**
 - **Get new members on the air!**
 - **Friendly Competition**

Let's all help make Michigan "radio-active" on the 18th of April!!!!

The 2015 Michigan QSO Party, sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club, is from 1600Z April 18 until 0400Z April 19.

Stations may operate the full 12 hours. Phone and CW on 80/40/20/15/10 meters. Single-op, multi-op, and mobile categories. Work stations once per band and mode. MI-to-MI QSOs allowed. Work portables and mobiles again as they change county, state or province. Exchange QSO number and location (county for MI stations, state/province or "DX" for others).

Suggested frequencies: CW-3545, 7045, 14045, 21045, 28045; Phone-3825, 7200, 14250, 21300, 28450. One point per phone QSO, two points per CW QSO. Count multipliers once per mode.

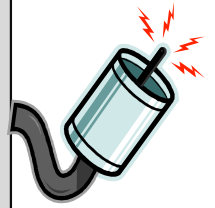
Multipliers are MI counties for all entries, plus states, provinces and "DX" for MI entries only. Final score is total QSO points times total multipliers.

Submit logs no later than 30 days after the contest. Electronic logs in Cabrillo format are submitted via the Log Submittal page on the MiQP web site <http://www.miqp.org/submitLogFileMiQP.html>. Mail paper logs with summary sheets to: Mad River Radio Club, c/o Dave Pruet, 2727 Harris Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48198.

For full rules, along with free logging software, log and summary sheets, see <http://www.miqp.org>.



The Feedline
Oakland County Amateur Radio Society
Organized 1937, ARRL affiliation 1962
Monthly Newsletter
April 2015



MICHIGAN QSO PARTY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In order to increase recognition for the efforts of Michigan and non-Michigan clubs in their participation in the MiQP Combined Club Competition, a new page has been added to the MiQP web site called the "MiQP Clubs Hall of Fame". This page is a pictorial display of the winning clubs by year since 1999 (when the MiQP sponsorship was assumed by the Mad River Radio Club and the contest rules were significantly revised). Prior to 2003, only clubs located within Michigan could participate in the Combined Club Competition. In that year, a separate Combined Club Competition for clubs located outside of Michigan was added to the contest. When you get chance, check out this new page on the MiQP web site <http://www.miqp.org>. You'll find a link to this new page called "MiQP Clubs Hall of Fame" under the "Contents" section on the MiQP home page. Less than two months to MiQP 2015! The Planned Operations page should be QRV soon. 73, Dave/K8CC

Add a little more fun to your MiQP action!

The first ever Michigan Cabinet Counties Award will be available during this year's Michigan QSO Party (April 18, 2015). Work one or more of the 10 Cabinet Counties during the hours of the MiQP and you qualify for the award.

Michigan Cabinet Counties? In an attempt to influence President Andrew Jackson in favor of creating a new State of Michigan (and awarding it the land being disputed in the Toledo War) the Michigan Territorial legislature named 10 of its new counties after members of Jackson's cabinet. Jackson eventually did sign legislation making Michigan the 26th state (1837) but gave the land to Ohio (Michigan got the U.P.).

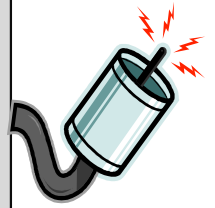
A list of the 10 Cabinet Counties and rules for the Michigan Cabinet Counties Award can be found at: <http://www.qsl.net/w8jrk/>

73 – Joe W8JRK

From the OCARS President: When submitting you logs from this contest, please name the Oakland County Amateur Radio Society as your club. If you do not know how to do it, please contact me and I or one of us will help. VY 73 es GL de Joe KJ8O



The Feedline
Oakland County Amateur Radio Society
Organized 1937, ARRL affiliation 1962
Monthly Newsletter
April 2015



The Radio Amateur's Code

The Radio Amateur is...

CONSIDERATE...He/[She] never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL...He/[She] offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IARU Radio Society in his/[her] country, through which Amateur Radio in his/[her] country is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE...He/[She] keeps his/[her] station up to date. It is well-built and efficient. His/[Her] operating practice is above reproach.

FRIENDLY...He/[She] operates slowly and patiently when requested; offers friendly advice and counsel to beginners; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED...Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC...His/[Her] station and skills are always ready for service to country and community.

- adapted from the original Amateur's Code, written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928