

Air Scoop

Newsletter of the Delta County Amateur Radio Society

www.dcars.org

January 2008

Table of Contents

Annual Party

- Page 1 -

President's Message

- Page 2 -

Amateur Radio News

- Page 3 -

Independent Repeater Association

- Page 4 -

Ham Humor

V.E. Exams

Available throughout the U.P.

Upcoming Events

- Page 5 -

Meetings

The next DCARS meeting will be held on **January 21st**

Project Nights held weekly

- Page 6 -

New club officers chosen for 2008!



K8WLT	N8DP	KD8KDA	W8JRT
Walt	Dave	Mike	Joe
Treasurer	Secretary	Vice-President	President

Secretary's report:

Howard motion to accept and Walt seconded.

Old Business:

Tower at telegraph office coming together nicely.

May have to pay for electric to heat telegraph office.

Christmas in the village. Quite a few people. Nice to have the snow, made it a nice time.

New business:

January newsletter mailing to be sent to Delta County hams, Further newsletter mailings to be discussed at next club meeting.

January 12th license testing at Gladstone Public Library.

Project night to continue at the telegraph office.

Election of officers for 2008:

President W8JRT – Joe Thompson
V. P. KD8DKA – Mike Brackenbury
Sec/Newsletter N8DP- Dave Palmgren
Treasurer K8WLT – Walt Aho

Motion to adjourn by Howard,
Second by Walt.

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Annual dues renewal time. 15.00/year.

DCARS held it's annual Christmas party and meeting at the Great Northern Buffet on Dec 17th.

In Attendance were: KC8NUR – Tony & Jeanne, WA8LE – Les & Diane, N8OYR – Rich & Esther, WD8RTH – John & Kay, N8DP – Dave & Betty, KD8HDG – Rick & Mary, KD8DVL - Kenny, KA8WOF – Denise & Justin, W8JRT - Joe, K8WLT - Walt, W8FYZ - Al, W8HSJ – Howard, K8GMW - Don, KD8DKA - Mike.

Meeting opened by President Dave, N8DP.

Correspondence:

KC8QZG - Dave of the UP Echolink/IRLP net sends seasons greetings to all.

Treasurer's report:

Tony motion to accept and Les seconded.

President's Message



President

W8JRT

Joe Thompson
w8jrt@dcars.org

Thanks to all that attended the annual Christmas meeting of DCARS. The turn out was good and everyone enjoyed a good meal, I hope, and some good conversation. I'm looking forward to a great New Year in amateur radio. Last year was very good as we saw quite a lot of activities. The telegraph office located at the Fair Grounds was not only constructed but also used for quite a few activities. It went from nothing to a very impressive place in a very short period of time thanks to volunteers from the club. The .15 repeater was brought back on the air but still needs a little work. Hopefully in the New Year it can be improved. The tower at the telegraph office is underway. And hopefully we can improve Field Day and make it even more fun. Lots of challenges in the New Year. I look forward to enjoying amateur radio with everyone. See you next year.

Joe, W8JRT

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Ex-President's Message



Vice President

KD8DKA

Mike Brackenbury
kd8dka@dcars.org

I want to take this opportunity to thank the many members that made the past 3 years of my DCARS presidency a pleasant and successful one. Thank you to KC8NUR – Tony, W8JRT – Joe, N8OYR – Rich, WA8LE – Les and N8VBA – Marshall for holding club office positions. WA8LE, KA8RPB – Lowell, KD8DKA – Mike and K8GMW – Don for work on the club house. N8OYR, KC8NUR, KD8DKA & KD8DKC – Ken for tower work. WA8LE for his work on the newsletter. N8OYR & WD8RTH – John for Hamfest work. W8HSJ – Howard for V.E. Testing. W8JRT, N8OYR, KC8NUR & N8XAH – Mark for repeater work. And last but certainly not least, thanks to the rest of the club members for all of your efforts in making DCARS a great club.

Dave, N8DP

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January's Program



Secretary

N8DP

Dave Palmgren
n8dp@dcars.org

The program for January's meeting will be to continue learning about conventional 12 volt power supplies. We'll have a defective power supply to repair.

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February 2 - Swap & Shop



Treasurer

K8WLT

Walt Aho
k8wlt@dcars.org

The annual swap & shop will be held on February 2nd at the Negaunee township hall beginning at 9 a.m. The talk-in frequency will be 147.27 + with a pl tone of 100 hz. Admission is \$ 4 .00 and refreshments will be available at the event.

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Map showing IRLP nodes and the blues lines indicate the nodes that are connected.



Hamfest

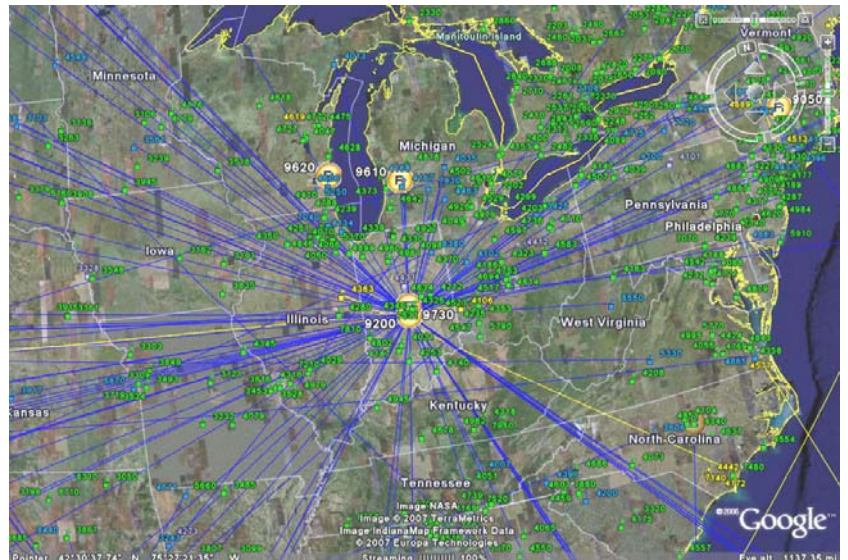
Chairman

WD8RTH

John Anderson
wd8rth@dcars.org

New years eve brought out a large number of hams from around the world, chatting on IRLP. The 9200 "Crossroads" reflector in Indianapolis had at one point 104 nodes connected together. There was a total of 253 nodes on the channel participating with a total of 4,847 transmissions.

At 00:00 UTC a ham in London transmitted with his hand-held, Big Ben chiming with thousands of people counting down the new year.



News in Amateur Radio

HAM RADIO BUSINESS: MOTOROLA BUYS VERTEX STANDARD

The board of directors at Vertex has approved the buyout terms.

While Vertex Standard's primary line of gear is commercial land mobile two way radio, it is also one of the worlds leading suppliers of ham radio gear Its Yaesu line was one of the first imports to the United States back in the 1970's and its popularity has remained high ever since.

Motorola is no stranger to ham radio products either. During the height of the FM craze in the early 1980's, its Metrum 2 meter transceiver was a highly sought after piece of gear for mobile amateur radio operation and still holds a high resale value among collectors of ham radio memorabilia.

Motorola Inc. announced on November 5th that will pay \$108 million to acquire 80 percent of Japan's Vertex Standard Company. The Schaumburg Illinois based Motorola said that Tokogiken, a closely held company controlled by the president and chief executive officer of Vertex, will acquire the other 20 percent of Vertex.

Motorola noted that it will effect the buyout through a tender offer, priced at 2,214 yen, or \$19.38 a share of Vertex stock. This represents a premium of 38 percent over the price at which Vertex shares closed Friday on the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

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THE NEW SOLAR CYCLE MAY BE HERE

Solar cycles last an average of 11 years. The bad news is that we are in a low point of solar activity as Cycle 23 ends. Because of this DX is scarce and the High Frequency bands are pretty bleak. But scientists say that the good news is on its way. They say that Solar Cycle 24 may have started a few weeks ago.

According to TV Technology magazine, the scientists at NASA studying solar physics became excited when a knot of magnetism popped over the sun's eastern limb back on December 11th. Marshall Space Flight Center Solar Physicist David Hathaway calls this a good sign. He says that the knot may not look like much, but that patch of magnetism could be a sign that the next solar cycle has begun.

Hathaway explained that each new solar

cycles always begins with a high-latitude, reversed polarity sunspot. Reversed polarity means a sunspot with an opposite magnetic polarity compared to sunspots from the previous solar cycle. High-latitude refers to the sun's grid of latitude and longitude.

A NASA Science News release describes old cycle spots as those that tend to congregate near the sun's equator. New cycle spots appear about 25 or 30 degrees higher in latitude.

The release says that many forecasters believe Solar Cycle 24 will peak in 2011 or 2012 and will be intense. These same Solar Cycle forecasters also say that more time is needed to see if this sunspot really is the start of Solar Cycle 24.

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RADIO EXPERIMENTATION: THE SOUND OF DIGITAL HAM RADIO

With the proliferation of different Amateur Radio digital modes in recent years, it can be difficult for the newcomer to identify what they are listening to. But help is on the way.

The British Amateur Radio Teledata Group has made available MP3s of the sounds of various Digital Modes.

In all, there are over two dozen MP3 files on the groups website for you to download.

These include samples of the sound of ALE, Domino EX, Olivia and MT63 and PSK31 to name only a few.

These short sound clips can be of great help to anyone trying to figure out just what their receiver is hearing. They can be downloaded at <http://www.bartg.org.uk/Sound%20Files/soundlibrary.htm>

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Airscoop

The Airscoop is the official newsletter of the Delta County Amateur Radio Society

Original articles and photos are welcome.

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Submit articles to:

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n8dp@dcars.org

Please notify the Newsletter Editor of any address changes.

Visit our Website

WWW.DCARS.ORG
Webmaster
Joe Thompson W8JRT
w8jrt@dcars.org

Area 2 Meter Repeaters

Escanaba	147.15 +	No PL
	145.13 -	No PL
Gladstone	147.24 +	107.2
IRLP 4013	147.55 Smpx	107.2
Cooks	146.70 -	No PL
Grd Marais	147.195+	No PL
Gwinn	146.64 -	100.0
Iron Mtn	146.85 -	No PL
Iron River	145.17 -	107.2
Ishpeming	146.91 -	No PL
Marquette	146.97 -	100.0
	147.27 +	100.0
Menominee	147.00 +	107.2
Munising	145.41 -	No PL
Newberry	146.61 +	127.3
	147.09 +	114.8
Republic	147.09 +	No PL
Trenary	147.03 +	No PL
Wetmore	146.79 -	No PL

Wisconsin Repeaters

Abrams	146.835 -	107.2
Crivitz	145.47 -	107.2
Egg Harbor	146.73 -	107.2
McAllister	146.88 -	136.5
Green Bay	147.12 +	107.2
	147.27 +	107.2
	146.685 -	107.2
	145.49 -	100.0
Sister Bay	147.18 +	107.2
Sturgeon Bay	147.21 +	107.2

Club History

Our organization began with a group of local hams getting together in 1964 for the purpose of hosting a U.P. Hamfest.

They called themselves the "Bay de Noc Radio Club" This first local Hamfest became a reality in 1965.

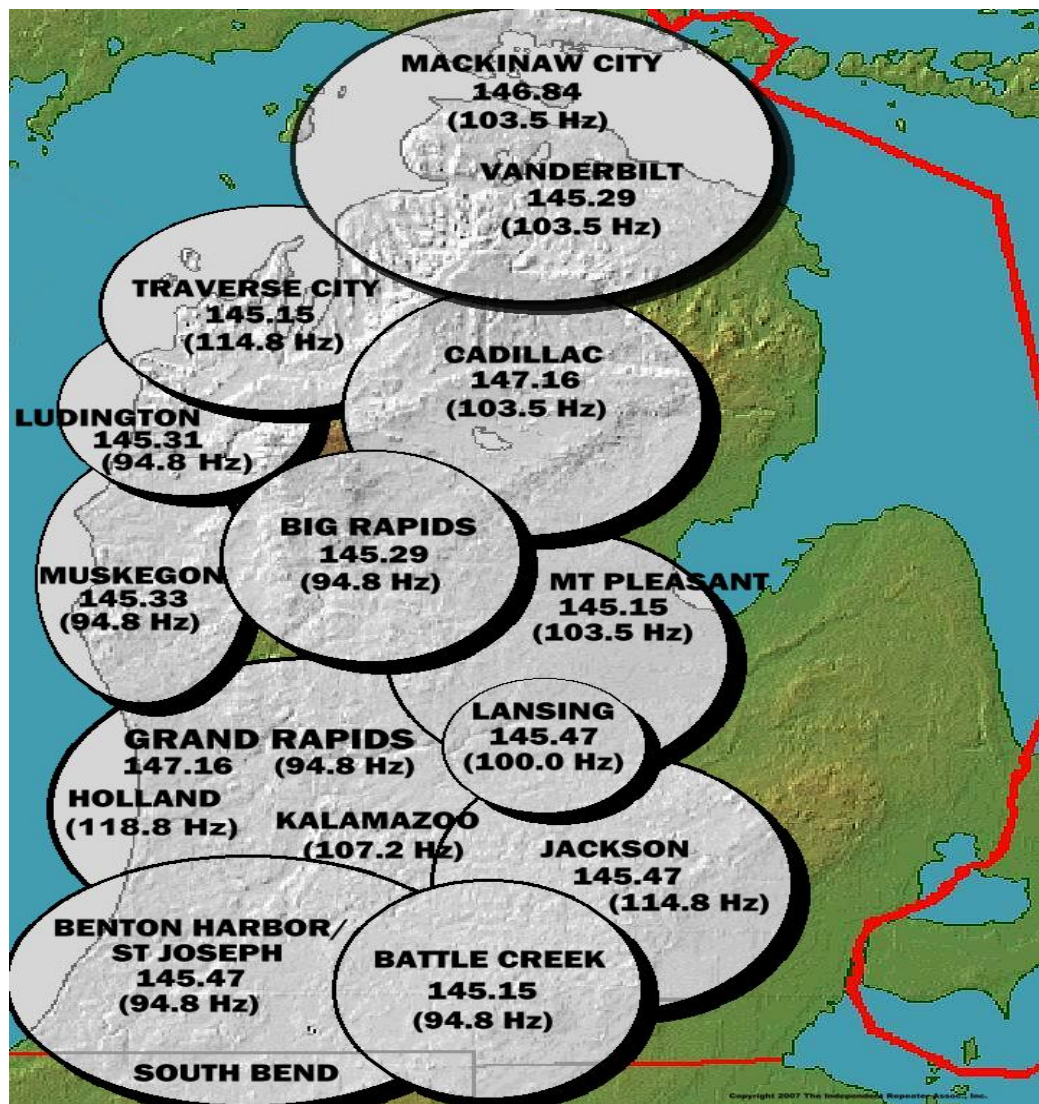
On September 1, 1970 the group met once again at the Northern Michigan National Bank to create a more formal club. The name chosen was the "Delta County Amateur Radio Society".

Arrl affiliation was applied for and the club received it's charter on February 15th 1971.

Please address all correspondence to:
DCARS

Richard Thompson
9560 Chaison N. Road
Gladstone, Mi 49837

The Independent Repeater Association of Michigan consists of 13 repeaters linked together to provide 2 meter coverage from the eastern portion of the U.P all the way to the Indiana border. For more information visit <http://www.w8hvg.org>



Ten Interesting Facts about the IRA Link System (as of Sept. 2000)

1. The IRA link system covers most (~80%) of the Lower Peninsula and about 20% of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan including parts of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Canada 24-hours a day
2. It involves 14 sites (repeaters and auxiliary links).
3. There are 47 antennas (28 beams, 15 four-bay colinears and 4 verticals).
4. There are 27 transmitters.
5. There are 29 receivers.
6. There is over 2 miles of antenna cables (hardline) with over 225 connectors.
7. When you "kerchunk" the link system, a minimum of 16 transmitters gets keyed up so please ID if you kerchunk the system (you just might start a conversation).
8. All signals are routed through Grand Rapids before being broadcast out any repeater.
9. The farthest driving distance between linked repeaters is 260 miles (Joseph and Vanderbilt).
10. The IRA is not a club and there are no dues, but donations are accepted and are tax deductible.



DCARS is an
ARRL Affiliated Club

Ham Humor

ADVANCED

Leaps tall buildings in a single bound;
Is more powerful than a locomotive;
Is faster than a speeding bullet;
Walks on water, and gives policy to GOD.

GENERAL:

Leaps short buildings in a single bound;
Is more powerful than a switch engine;
Is just as fast as a speeding bullet;
Walks on water if the sea is calm;
Talks with GOD.

CONDITIONAL:

Leaps short buildings with a running jump AND favorable winds...
Is almost as powerful as a switch engine; Is faster than a speeding BB;
Walks on water in an indoor swimming pool;
Talks with GOD if special request is approved.

TECHNICIAN (Old):

Barely clears a quonset hut;
Loses tug-of-war with a locomotive;
Can fire a speeding bullet;
Swims well;
Is occasionally addressed by GOD.

TECH-PLUS:

Runs into buildings;
Recognizes locomotive two out of three times;
Is not issued ammunition;
Can stay afloat with a life preserver;
Talks to walls.

NOVICE:

Makes high marks on the wall when trying to leap small buildings;
Is run over by locomotive;
Can sometimes handle a gun without inflicting self-injury;
Talks to animals.

TECH:

Falls over doorsteps when entering buildings;
Says, "Look at the choo-choo";
Wets himself with a water pistol;
Plays in mud puddles;
Mumbles to himself.

AMATEUR EXTRA:

Lifts buildings and walks under them;
Kicks locomotives off the track;
Catches speeding bullets in their teeth AND EATS THEM;
Freezes water with a single glance;
THEY ARE GOD!

V. E. Testing

Gladstone

Jan 12th, Apr 12th
9 am EST
Public Library
400 S 10th
Howard St. John W8HSJ
(906) 428-9476
w8hsj@dcars.org

Marquette

Mar 8th
8:30 am EST
Marquette Co. Health Dept.
U.S.41
Rich Schwenke N8GBA
(906) 249-3837
n8gba@chartermi.net

Kingsford

Feb 2nd
9 am CST
Dickenson County Library
Mark Lewis N8UKD

Bring a photo ID if
available otherwise two
forms of identification will
required.

Test session fees are \$14,
Please bring exact amount
check.

Bring your actual license
or C.S.C.E. and a
photocopy to be sent in
for element credit

Upcoming Events

February 2
Swap & Shop
Marquette

March
Technician Classes

May 16th – 18th
Dayton Hamvention

June 28th -29th
ARRL Field Day

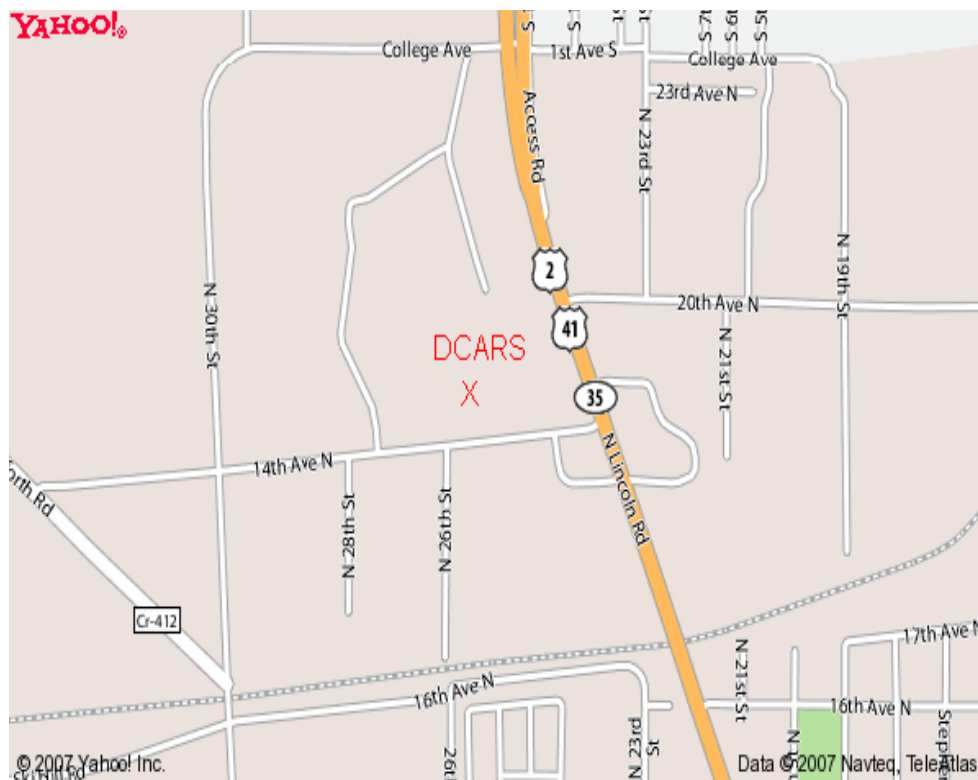
August 2nd
UP Hamfest 2008
Escanaba

Meetings

The Delta County Amateur Radio Society meets at 7 p.m. on the third Monday of each month. The meeting is held in the Joseph Heirman University Center, Room 963 at Bay de Noc College.

Project Nights

Projects nights are held on Mondays from Labor Day until Memorial Day. (except club meeting nights)



From US – 2 & 41
Turn West on to Danforth Road,
Travel one block and turn right into Lot D

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Delta County Amateur Radio Society
c/o Richard Thompson
9560 Chaison – N. Road
Gladstone, Mi.
49837

Stamp

Label