

Air Scoop

Newsletter of the Delta County Amateur Radio Society

www.dcars.org

April 2008

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Meetings

The next DCARS meeting will be held on

April 21th

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Dihydrogen Monoxide found in Delta County!

All residents of Delta County should be advised that excessive levels of the chemical dihydrogen monoxide have been found in all parts of the county. Federal & State agencies have recently been reporting on the rising levels of this lethal substance.

Dihydrogen Menoxide is also known as DHMO and hydroxyl acid.

Consider these facts!

Dihydrogen monoxide is colorless, odorless, tasteless.

Over 3,000 deaths in the U.S. are caused annually by this deadly chemical.

DHMO is the major component of acid rain.

Accidental inhalation can kill you.

It can cause excessive sweating, vomiting, nausea and body electrolyte imbalance.

In its gaseous state it can cause severe burns.

Companies dump waste DHMO into rivers and the ocean, and nothing can be done to stop them because this practice is still legal.

The common name for dihydrogen monoxide is water and although everything mentioned in this article is true – you have been a victim of an April fools joke.

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Skywarn

Matt Zika (KD8EFY) from the National Weather Service office in Marquette will be holding Storm Spotter Training in Escanaba at the Civic Center on Tuesday April 22nd at 6:30 p.m. All interested persons are encouraged to attend. Matt can be reached at NWS MQT (906) 475-5212 More information is available at <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/mqt/> and at <http://kcra-mi.net/skywarn/>

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Don – K8GMW inspects his airplane after a local storm

From the Archives

I believe this to be from approximately 30 years ago, K8RCT – Ernie Abel and WB8OIY – Dave Palmgren install a 2 meter repeater antenna on the 104.7 FM tower.



Photo's courtesy of John - WD8RTH

President's Message



President

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Joe Thompson
w8jrt@dcars.org



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KD8DKA

Mike Brackenbury
kd8dka@dcars.org



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N8DP

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n8dp@dcars.org



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k8wlt@dcars.org



Hamfest

Chairman

WD8RTH

John Anderson
wd8rth@dcars.org

Well, the temperature is increasing and the snow cover decreasing. A great time of year to start lining up those outdoor projects you've been thinking about all winter. Plans are already underway to populate the top of the tower at the Telegraph Office.

The most recent Technician class has generated 5 new Amateur Radio operators. Dave, N8DP, has done a great job in teaching this class the last 3 years with a one hundred percent success rate; a great accomplishment that we all benefit from. It is so nice to have new faces join us at the monthly meetings and other events as well as the new voices on the air. Thanks to Dave, everyone else that helped out, and the VE team for their support of this important yearly event.

Have a great month. See you at the next meeting.

73,

Joe, W8JRT

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Minutes from the March meeting

The March meeting of DCARS began at 7:10 pm. In attendance were W8JRT, KD8DKA, N8DP, K8WLT, WD8RTH, WA8LE, K8GMW, N8OYR, KD8FWJ, K8AO, KA8RPB, KD8DKB, KD8DKC, KC8NUR, K8EMS, N1PWW, Jim Howard, Jim Love, Jason Germaine, Grant Heslip

Treasurer's report read – Motion to accept by KD8DKC, Second by KA8RPB - Passed

Secretary's report – Motion to accept by N8OYR, Second by WA8LE – Passed

W8JRT gave a .15 repeater update - The tone encoder board is installed and the repeater has been tuned and is up and running.

Old Business

The newsletter will be offered by snail mail to members who want it. Motion by KC8NUR, Second by KA8RPB - Passed

KD8DKA reported no progress on obtaining insurance for the clubhouse.

Hamfest committee to have planning meeting on Saturday March 22nd.

New Business

A Motion to build a fence around the tower at the clubhouse was made by N8DP
Seconded by KC8NUR – Passed

Field day was discussed – No volunteers for chairman – Issue was tabled

A list of club assets to be compiled by N8DP
Please forward any information to him.

Michigan QSO Party April 19th

WA8LE reports having good success on PSK31 on 20 meters.

Motion to adjourn by N8OYR, Seconded by KD8DKC - Passed.

The 50 – 50 raffle was won by Grant who donated the winnings back to the club.

March's program was a show and tell on the discone antenna.

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Web Site of the Month – Beginning in this issue, we will be recommending ham radio related web sites that will be of interest. This month's site is www.dxatlas.com where there are a number of freeware and shareware programs available. The DXAtlas program is good one to try also the Morse Runner program is demonstrated on Youtube.com – You can watch it at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WTvXxzBC7EY>

Happenings in Amateur Radio

"When News Breaks – We Fix It!"

HAMVENTION® NAMES 2008 AWARD WINNERS

DAYTON, OH (April 11, 2008) –

Three amateur radio (ham) operators who have made significant contributions to the Amateur Radio Service, will be honored guests when Hamvention® 2008 opens in Hara Arena on May 16.

Recipients of this year's Hamvention® awards are Ward Silver, N0AX, whose books and teaching materials have helped many become hams; Tom McDermott, N5EG, whose technical contributions helped digital ham radio expand; and Emery McClendon, KB9IBW, who started Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day (ARMAD) in 2003 as a way for Amateur Radio to express support and appreciation for our service men and women.

Frank Beafore, WS8B, Hamvention® Awards Chairman said selecting the winners from the number of worthy nominees presented a tough task for the committee. "We believe the winners all have made significant contributions to the ham radio community. We were impressed with the quality of the nominations."

Hamvention® Chairman Carl Rose, K8CPR, praised the winners, saying: "On behalf of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) and Hamvention® 2008 it is my pleasure to congratulate this year's Award Winners. I ask all hams to join me in recognizing the outstanding contributions and the many years of service the winners have given to the amateur radio service."

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KANSAS PROTECTS HAM RADIO TOWERS AND ANTENNAS

Kansas Becomes 26th State to have a law assuring to rights of hams to have antennas. Known as the Kansas Emergency Communications Preservation Act the new measure is fashioned after federal statute PRB-1.

The wording of HB 2805 is simple and unambiguous. It states that if a municipality takes any action that regulates the placement, screening, number or height of a ham radio station antenna structure, that this action must reasonably accommodate federally licensed amateur radio service communications.

Also that the action must constitute the minimum regulation practicable to carry out the legitimate purpose of the governing body. Also that the action must constitute the minimum regulation practicable to carry out the legitimate purpose of the governing body.

As to existing towers and antennas: These are grandfathered under a stipulation that says antenna support structures constructed prior to the bill's effective date are exempted from subsequent changes in zoning regulations. Also that they may be repaired as needed.

According to Tom Laux, N0AG, the Salvation Army was very supportive of the measure. Representatives of the Salvation Army twice testified in support of it at hearings held in Topeka. Laux says that they were fantastic.

The bill, written was by Rep Arlen Siegfried. It unanimously passed in both the houses of the Kansas legislature. Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius signed HB 2805 into law on April 9. It takes effect July 1, 2008.

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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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Permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of material found in the Airscoop unless otherwise noted providing that proper credit is given to the author and the Delta County Amateur Radio Society.

Submit articles to:

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Dave Palmgren – N8DP
(906) 428 - 2271
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 +	107.2	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 its charter on February 15th 1971.

Please address all correspondence to:
DCARS

Richard Thompson
9560 Chaison N. Road
Gladstone, Mi 49837



DCARS is an
ARRL Affiliated Club

Area Nets

UP Net 3921khz
Daily – 5pm EST
Sunday – Noon EST

Midcars 7258khz
Daily 7:30am – 2pm EST

IRLP Linkup Node 9206
Tuesday 9pm EST

Southcars Node 9617
Saturday – 9am EST

UP Echolink Node 9617
Sunday – 8pm EST

Coming Events

Michigan QSO Party – Saturday April 19th, from 12 Noon to 12 Midnight EDT. Michigan stations send a sequential serial number beginning with 001, and their Michigan county. The goal is to work as many stations possible. Scoring multipliers include each U.S. state, 83 Michigan Counties and the 14 Canadian Provinces. Goto <http://www.miqp.org/Rules.htm> for details.

National Fox Hunting Weekend – May 10th & 11th

Local News - Congratulations

Congratulations to our newest Technicians!

Grant Heslip – KD8IGU, Clay Laveau – KD8IGV, John Trotter – KD8IGW,
Jim Love – KD8IGX & Dennis Menard – KD8IGY

Congratulations to Justin KD8HOR on earning his new General Ticket!

Congratulations to Mark - KD8DVN on opening his own business in marriage, family, and individual counseling. I know that he has many years of experience in counseling and in employee assistance program services. His number is (906) 786 -7838 or stop by and see him at 1100 Ludington, Suite 103 Escanaba.

April's Program – Explaining the electronic challenge on page 5

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**Take the electronic challenge on page 5 first
Then check your answers here**

Answer to Question 1 on page 5

In drawing "a" the diode is forward biased and conducting, there will be a voltage drop of about .7 volt shown on meter "a" and 5.3 volts shown on meter "b".

In drawing "b" the diode is reversed biased and not conducting, there will be a voltage drop of 6 volts shown on meter "c" and 0 volts shown on meter "d".

Answer to Question 2 on page 5

After the first two meter tests, there were no conducting meter readings between pins 1 & 2. This indicates that neither pins 1 or 2 are the base, leaving pin 3 as the base.

The only combinations of test points giving conducting meter readings are pins 1 and 3 (red test lead on 1 and black test lead on 3), and pins 2 and 3 (red test lead on 2 and black test lead on 3). Pin 3 is the pin that is common having conducting meter readings confirming pin 3 is the base, also we get conducting meter readings when the minus lead is on pin 3 telling us that the base is "N" material.

This transistor is a PNP.

The emitter-base junction will possess a slightly greater forward voltage drop than the collector-base junction because of a disparity in doping concentration between the emitter and collector regions of the transistor: the emitter is a much more heavily doped piece of semiconductor material than the collector, causing its junction with the base to produce a higher forward voltage drop.

Pins 1 & 3 indicated forward biasing of (0.655 volts). (Emitter – Base)
Pins 2 & 3 indicated forward biasing of (0.621 volts). (Collector – Base)

In summary: Pin 1 = Emitter, Pin 2 = Collector & Pin 3 = Base

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Electronic Challenge

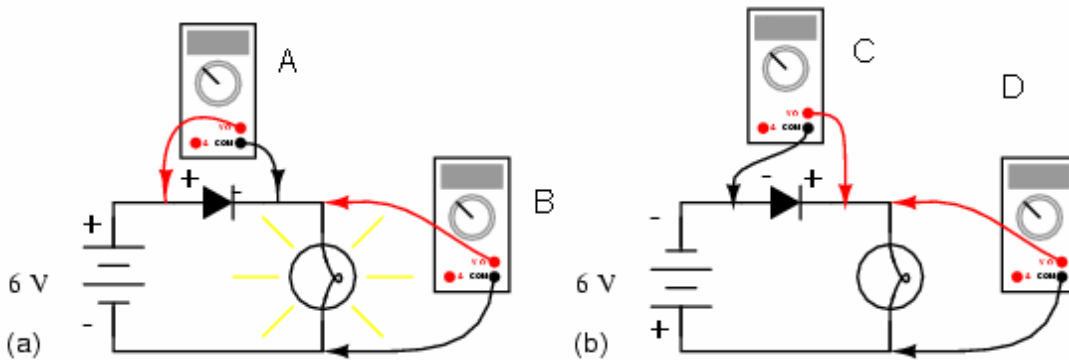
1

In the drawings below there are two circuits (a) & (b).

In circuit (a) the silicon diode is conducting and the light bulb is on.

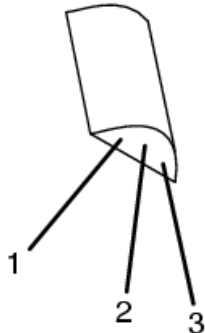
In circuit (b) the same diode is now reverse biased and the light bulb is off.

What will the voltmeters indicate at positions A, B, C & D?



#2

Unknown bipolar transistor



Which wires are emitter, base, and collector?

Using the “diode check” on a multimeter you get the following meter readings

- Meter touching wire 1 (+) and 2 (-): "OL"
- Meter touching wire 1 (-) and 2 (+): "OL"
- Meter touching wire 1 (+) and 3 (-): 0.655 volts
- Meter touching wire 1 (-) and 3 (+): "OL"
- Meter touching wire 2 (+) and 3 (-): 0.621 volts
- Meter touching wire 2 (-) and 3 (+): "OL"

The Questions are: Which leads are the Emitter, Base & Collector?

Also is the Transistor a NPN or PNP?

Answers are found on Page 4

V. E. Testing

Gladstone

July 12th

9 am EST

T.B.A

Howard St. John W8HSJ

(906) 428-9476

w8hsj@dcars.org

Marquette

Jun 14th

8:30 am EST

Marquette Co. Health Dept.

U.S.41

Rich Schwenke N8GBA

(906) 249-3837

n8gba@chartermi.net

Kingsford

May 3rd

9 am CST

Dickenson County Library

Mark Lewis N8UKD

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

Test session fees are **\$14**. Please bring exact amount or a check.

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

Upcoming Events

April 19th

Michigan QSO Party

May 10th – 11th

National Foxhunt Weekend

May 16th – 18th

Dayton Hamvention

June 28th -29th

ARRL Field Day

August 2nd

UP Hamfest 2008

Escañaba

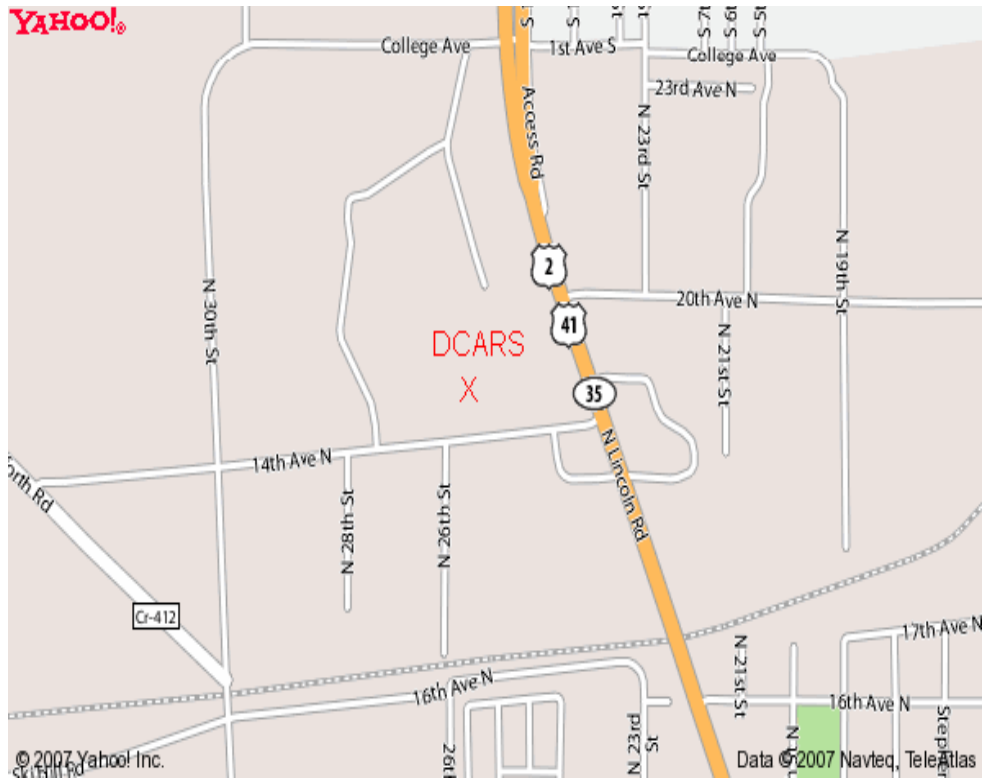
Meetings

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.

Annual Membership Dues are \$15

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

fold

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

Stamp

Label