

Air Scoop

Newsletter of the Delta County Amateur Radio Society

www.dcars.org

May 2008

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Meetings

The next DCARS meeting will be held on

May 19th

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Clubhouse Antenna's are Installed!

The antennas are: (Top to Bottom)

A homebrew 2 meter yagi.

3 element Mosley triband yagi for 10, 15 & 20 Meter coverage.

A G5RV dipole is mounted on the side to give us coverage on the lower bands.

The top of the tower is reserved for an APRS node antenna.

Mike KD8DKA reports that the antennas are working well.

Rich N8OYR takes aim at installing a G5RV dipole with Tony KC8NUR assisting.

Also present was Joe - W8JRT



President's Message



President

W8JRT

Joe Thompson

w8jrt@dcars.org



Vice President

KD8DKA

Mike Brackenbury

kd8dka@dcars.org



Secretary

N8DP

Dave Palmgren

n8dp@dcars.org



Treasurer

K8WLT

Walt Aho

k8wlt@dcars.org



Hamfest

Chairman

WD8RTH

John Anderson

wd8rth@dcars.org

Hello Radio Amateurs.

Hope you're all out there enjoying Spring. There have been projects underway. The triband beam and rotor are on top the tower at the Telegraph office. A nice job done by the installation crew.

Next month is Field Day. Not too late to start thinking about that great event. The Ham Fest is just a couple of months off. Before you know it those events will be upon us.

73 and we'll see you at the next club meeting. Joe, W8JRT

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Minutes from the April meeting

The April meeting of DCARS began at 7:05 pm. President W8JRT was unable to attend the meeting was led by V.P. KD8DKA

In attendance were KD8DKA, N8DP, K8WLT, WD8RTH, WA8LE, N8OYR, KD8FWJ, KA8RPB, KC8NUR, N1PWW, KD8IGX, KD8DVL, W8HSJ, & N8XAH

Treasurer's report read – Motion to accept by WA8LE, Second by KC8NUR - Passed

Secretary's report – Motion to accept by WD8RTH, Second by KA8RPB – Passed

Misc. Reports KD8DKA gave a club house update – There been considerable progress made on the antenna installation. The power has been turned off for a service upgrade to the village. All area repeaters are working fine.

Old Business

KD8DKA reported no progress on obtaining insurance for the clubhouse.

Field day weekend will coincide with the Balloons on the Bay event at the fairgrounds.

Hamfest committee to have planning meeting on Saturday May 10th - 9 a.m. at the Family Inn

New Business

A Motion to contribute \$5 towards the price of an embroidered DCARS shirt for those members working at the Hamfest was made by N8DP Seconded by WD8RTH – Passed (See Page 4 for Details)

W8HSJ will contact Bill WA8WG to inform him of the availability of the top of the tower for an APRS node.

Motion to adjourn by N8OYR, Seconded by WD8RTH - Passed.

The 50 – 50 raffle was won by KD8IGX who donated the winnings back to the club.

April's program was a discussion on semiconductor theory.

May's program will be led by KA8RPB on the subject of power supplies.

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Web Site of the Month – Amateur Logic TV
Amateur Logic TV brings a ham radio related program every month or two. Program sizes are large and a broadband connection is recommended.

<http://www.amateurlogic.com/>



Happenings in Amateur Radio

"When News Breaks – We Fix It!"

FCC REFUSES PETITION TO EXPAND 2 METER REPEATER SUBBANDS FOR DIGITAL OPERATIONS

The FCC on May 7th denied a petition filed by two California hams asking that an additional repeater subband be created on 2 meters. This, ostensibly to permit the introduction of digital voice repeaters in areas where no spectrum exists for them.

In the petition for Rule Making filed last October 10th, Ken D. Chafin, W6CPA, and Leon J. Brown, KC6JAR, the Commission amend its rules to allow repeater stations to transmit in the 145.5 to 145.8 MHz segment of the 2 meter amateur band. This, in addition to the 2 meter frequency segments currently authorized for repeater station operation. In their petition Chafin and Brown argued that additional spectrum is needed for repeater stations because some amateur repeater stations have begun using certain digital communication protocols, and "digital voice operation is incompatible with existing analog operations . This, because digital voice users are unable to determine if the desired frequency is in use by analog users and can inadvertently cause harmful interference to those users.

The pair also argued that coordinating groups have been unable to separate analog and digital voice repeater operations to avoid harmful interference because the available repeater spectrum in the 2 meter band is fully occupied by existing analog users in most metropolitan areas."

After consideration of their request, the agency concluded that the Petition does not present grounds for the Commission to propose to amend its rules. That repeater stations are authorized to transmit on any frequency in the 2 meter band except the 144.0 to 144.5 MHz and 145.5 to 146.0 MHz frequency segments. These two segments were excluded to minimize the possibility of harmful interference to other amateur service stations and operating activities, especially "weak signal" operations. The FCC says that allocating an additional three hundred kilohertz of the 2 meter band to repeater operation would not be consistent with that concern. Rather, it would likely result in increased interference to non-repeater stations.

The FCC says no new repeater subband will be created to cater to the desires of digital voice operators. Rather, those wanting to use this or any other emerging modes will have to do so within the context of the existing Amateur Services rules. Rules that say repeaters, be they analog or digital have to stay in their own R-F back yards and operate in a way as to cause no interference to other users of bands where repeater and non repeater operations both exist. It also might be viewed as a kind of subliminal warning to coordinators who are considering putting digital voice repeaters in spectrum outside of established repeater subbands to reconsider and not make such a move.

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HAM RADIO IN SPACE: 7 NEW CUBESAT - HAMSATS ALL OK

The April 28th launch of 10 satellites aboard an Indian Space Research rocket put 7 amateur radio cubesats and 3 commercial scientific birds into space.

Telemetry indicates that all solar panels and antennas have properly deployed. Other telemetry shows values for all on orbit housekeeping activities are normal.

An excellent source of information for each of these satellites can be found at: http://space.skyrocket.de/index_frame.htm (scroll down to the April 28 data).

Also WORPK Cubesat Webpage at: <http://showcase.netins.net/web/wallio/CubeSat.htm>.

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Airscoop

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

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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

Local News

Extra class test session coming to a club meeting near you!

The new Extra class exam question pool will be used effective July 1st. The next locally scheduled exam session is July 12th, so to give those interested in taking the exam using the old question pool, Howard W8HSJ along with his group of volunteer examiners have offered to give exams after the June 21st club meeting.

Hamfest Tee-Shirts

DCARS has authorized contributing \$5 per Hamfest volunteer for purchase of embroidered shirts from JB Stitches. Polo, Tee and Sweatshirts are available in many different colors and styles. The shirts will come with the **DCARS** logo and your callsign. Group discounts are available if we can get a large order together.

Field Day Locator

The ARRL has created a web site for finding Field Day station locations. This is a great aid if you're out of town and would like to check out a nearby Field Day site.

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/locator.php>

A.P.R.S.

The following is a note from George Thurner - W8FWG to all APRS users.

Hello Gentlemen:

I've initiated some changes to the SSID's here in the Copper Country. Regarding some of our changes.....here's what has happened....or is about to happen very soon:

W8FWG (my home station) become W8FWG-10 It will operate via the Internet only.

W8FWG-8 at Osceola has already been changed to W8FWG-3 (A digipeater)

W8FWG-9 at Ontonagon will become W8FWG-2

(As soon as I can reach Al, to make the change)

W8FWG-5 my mobile APRS in Laurium, becomes W8FWG-9 (Nationwide for mobiles)

WB4APR (Bob Bruninga) called the "Father of APRS" is suggesting the plan listed below, and we are going along with it.

Here are those common defaults:

- 0 Home Station, Home Station running IGate.
- 1 Digipeater, Home Station running a Relay Digi, Wx Digipeater
- 2 Digipeater [#2 or] on 70CM
- 3 Digipeater [#3]
- 4 HF to VHF Gateway
- 5 IGate (Not home station)
- 6 is for Operations via Satellite
- 7 Kenwood D7 HH
- 8 is for boats, sailboats and ships (maybe 802.11 in the future)
- 9 is for Mobiles
- 10 is for operation via The internet only
- 11 is for APRS touch-tone users (and the occasional Balloons)
- 12 Portable Units such as Laptops, Camp Sites etc.
- 14 is for Truckers
- 15 is for HF

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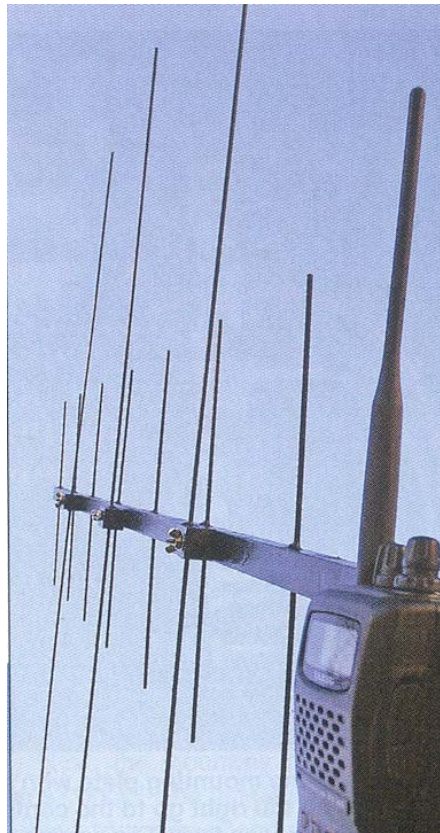
Building a Ham Satellite station the easy way!

Making an "Oscar" antenna.

The May 2008 issue of QST magazine has an article on an interesting dual band antenna that looks easy to build.

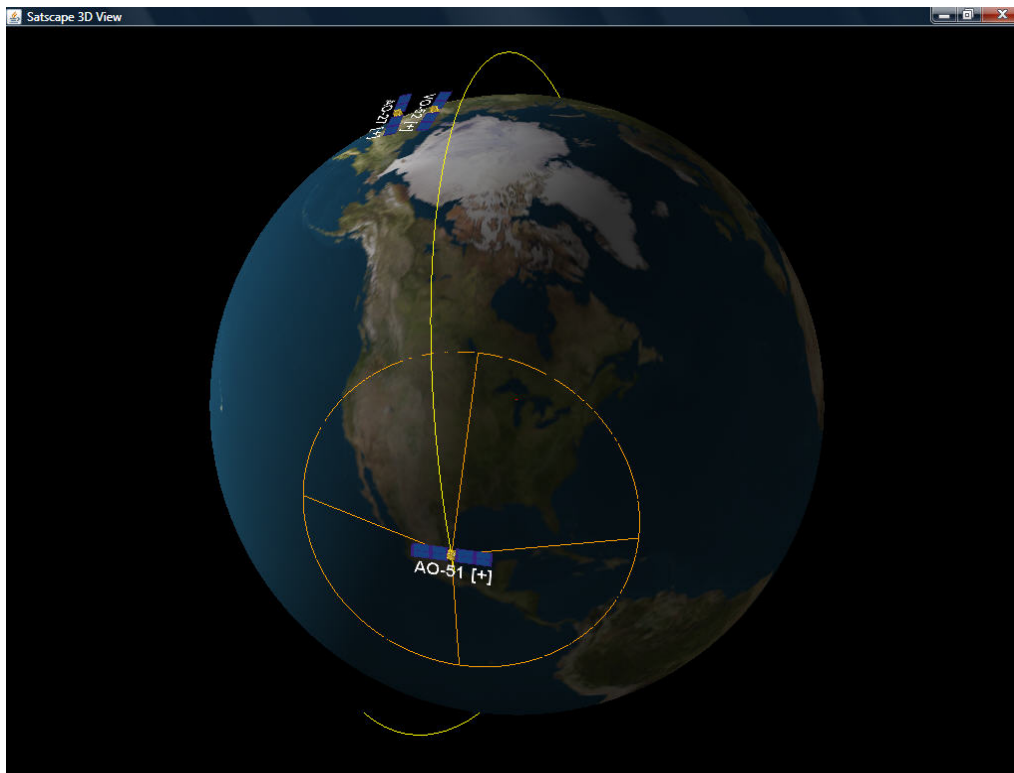
On page 42, Thomas Hart - AD1B describes an antenna that has no radiators or reflectors to build, instead he mounts the hand-held in such a way that the rubber ducky becomes the yagi's radiator.

The antenna has three - two meter elements that can swivel for easy storage and seven 70 cm elements all used as directors. The yagi has a mount for the hand-held to place it inline with the rest of the antenna.



Satscape

Satscape is a program that will allow anyone with a computer to accurately predict satellite orbits. The program is free to download (Donations are welcomed) and does a great job of graphically showing satellite positions and providing orbital position printouts. Check out the program at <http://www.satscape.co.uk/>



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

Aug. 2nd

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

May 16th - 18th
Dayton Hamvention

June 28th -29th
ARRL Field Day

August 2nd
UP Hamfest 2008
Escanaba

August 12th - 17th
UP State Fair
Escanaba

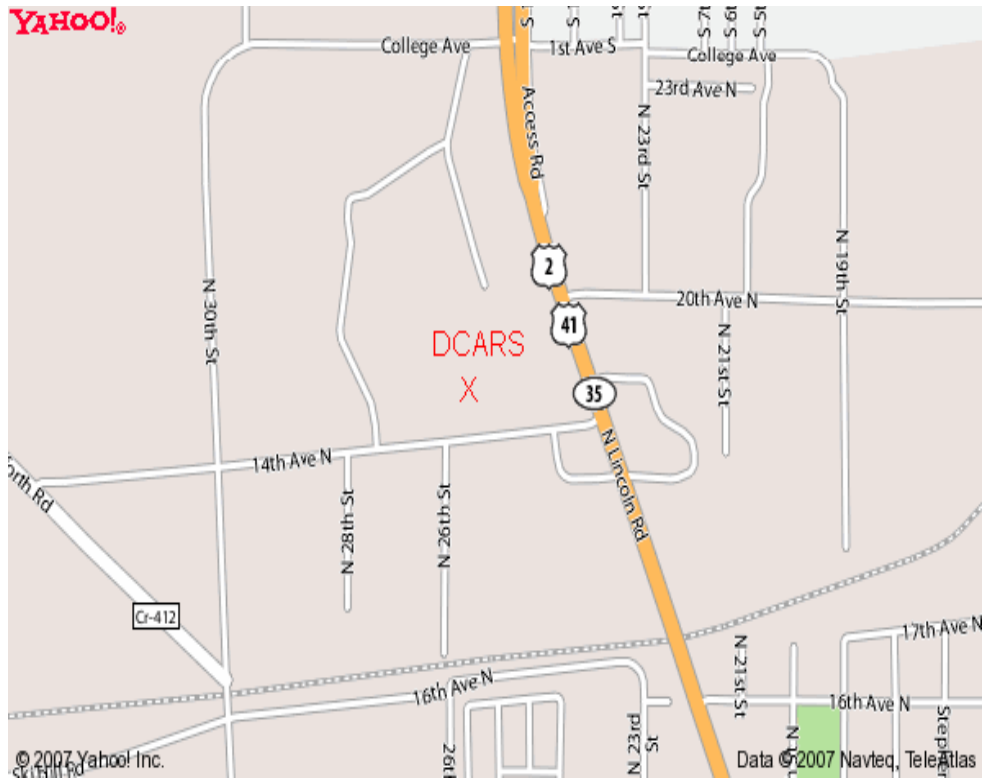
Meetings

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.

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