

Air Scoop

Newsletter of the Delta County Amateur Radio Society

www.dcars.org

July 2008

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The next DCARS meeting will be held on

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Field Day 2008



Lowell KA8RPB & Walt K8WLT add to the log while Jim W8JNL waits his turn.



Tony KC8NUR & Justin KD8HOR operate in the auxiliary shack at the base of the tower.

Top ten reasons for Field Day:

10. "I love the smell of fried power supplies in the morning."
9. Watching the FD chairman trying unsuccessfully to shoot an arrow tied to the 80 meter dipole through the top of a fir tree.
8. Seeing dignified QCWA members running around in silly T-shirts.
7. Mine field training in the cow pasture.
6. The barbecue. "CQ Food Day, CQ Food Day..."
5. Watching the FD chairman trying unsuccessfully to cook the birds he shot with the arrow while trying to raise the 80 meter dipole.
4. The eternal race between your fingers on the keyer paddles and the no-code mosquito hovering above them.
3. Seeing the FD chairman's tent fly up in the air, and wishing you had tied the 80 meter dipole to it as it flies over the fir tree.
2. Watching K9DOG lift his leg and improve your grounding system.
1. Learning from the FD chairman the correct procedure for using a Transmatch to tune a shunt fed fir tree.



Signs were put up to guide those passing by to see our operation.

Field Day Results

While the following numbers are not official, they should be reasonably close. We had 9 operators running 2 stations that logged 335 low power phone contacts for 670 points.

Our bonus points include receiving the W1AW message, setting up in a public location, having a public information table, and submitting by the web for a total of 350 bonus points. Our total score is 1020 points. KD8DKA reports: We should acknowledge the fine people at our local "Joe To Go" for their above and beyond generosity of not just donating 2 large jugs (2.2 liter each) of stay awake juice, but reopening their store to do so. One was Colombian and the other was Hazelnut. This brought the total to almost 9 liters (KD8DVN brought the first two jugs of Hazelnut) of gourmet coffee consumed.

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President's Message

Well, the summer is definitely starting to heat up. There has been a lot of activity around the telegraph office. This is great to see. Many first contacts were made by a group of Boy Scouts; nice to get someone on the air for the first time. This year Field Day coincided with the 'Balloons on the Bay' event which provided for a lot of activity around the Telegraph Office. It won't be long and our Swap will be here. Lots of opportunities to get involved in some great Amateur Radio Events. Hurry, summer is going way too fast.

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Minutes from the June meeting

The June meeting of DCARS began at 7:05 pm. In attendance were W8JRT, N8DP, K8AO, KD8DKA, K8WLT, WD8RTH, K8GMW, N8OYR, KA8RPB, KD8DKB, KD8DKC, KC8NUR, N1PWW, KD8DVN, W8JNL, KD8HOR, KC8OJQ, Jim Howard, John Merki

Treasurer's report read – Motion to accept by KD8DVN, Second by KD8DKC - Passed

Secretary's report – Motion to accept by N8OYR, Second by KC8NUR – Passed

Old Business

Club House power is back on and drainage issues are being worked out with Steam & Gas club.

Independent Roofing has donated some rubber roofing material to water proof our storage room under the tower.

The September 15th club meeting will also host our annual picnic at the clubhouse.

Hamfest committee to have planning meeting on Saturday July 19TH - 9AM at Family Inn.

New Business

K8AO showed the club his new 5 band DXCC award. Congratulations Duane

Jim W8JNL is making name tags for the Hamfest volunteers and had us choose between a couple of designs.

A couple of hundred feet of 7/8" hardline to be sold at the Hamfest.

Motion to help support repairs to the 146.70 Repeater made and passed.

Club sponsored ARRL membership will be looked into.

Mike KD8DKA gave a report about the Cub Scout outing and our Ham Radio demonstration recently given.

Motion to Adjourn made by KD8DVN
Seconded by KD8DKC – Passed

The 50 – 50 raffle was won by KD8DVN.

June's program was a show and tell on Anderson Powerpoles.

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President
W8JRT

Joe Thompson
w8jrt@dcars.org



Vice President
KD8DKA

Mike Brackenbury
kd8dka@dcars.org



Secretary
N8DP

Dave Palmgren
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Treasurer
K8WLT

Walt Aho
k8wlt@dcars.org



**Hamfest
Chairman**
WD8RTH

John Anderson
wd8rth@dcars.org

Web Site of the Month – This month we will highlight 3 web sites rather than just one. These three sites are similar to each other in content and purpose.

WWW.EHAM.NET, WWW.QRZ.COM & WWW.QTH.COM

Use these sites for callsign lookup, equipment reviews and ham related articles.

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VOLUNTEERING

Excerpts taken from the ARRL 1988 Communications Manual

A volunteer; A person who performs or offers to perform a service of his or her own free will, A person who renders aid, performs a service, or assumes an obligation voluntarily. Do you fit this description?

As the Great Lakes Division Legislation Action Coordinator (DLAC), I have asked the State Legislative Action Coordinators (LAC) when making first contact with prospective Legislative Action Assistants (LAA) to make sure before they accepted the position that they were asked to take, to read the description before they make a decision. In accepting the volunteer position they will be expected to do the work, knowing that circumstances do arise and that make it impossible to carry through. But all in all we all are expected to do the job we accept.

The LAC has asked you to take this position because they feel you can and will do the work involved. They have asked you to take this position because they need it done and feel you were the best person to do it. Volunteers are the lifeblood of the ARRL. They are difficult to find, more difficult to keep, and at times, we all can be difficult to work with. Volunteers come in a wide variety of shapes, colors, sizes, backgrounds, skills, experience, and levels of motivation. They have their own reasons for participating and their own specific needs which must be met if they are to continue to volunteer. Their needs, abilities, and accomplishments determine the ultimate success or failure.

We must remember that volunteers are human beings with human needs, goals, attitudes, abilities, strengths and weaknesses. Since volunteers are the basic resource that we will be working with, it will be to our advantage to get to know each other as well as possible. Generally, volunteers will do precisely what they are asked to do - no more - no less. As each individual has his own likes and dislikes, it maybe necessary to demonstrate the full value of some assignments which are important though unpopular. Volunteers must believe in what you are asking them to do is really needed. Volunteers don't like to be underutilized, and tend to disappear when kept cooling their heels for a significant length of time. They will work for long hours under the worst conditions as long as they can see the need for it. Most will do anything you ask as long as they're treated properly. If you mistreat or abuse them, they may not volunteer their help again.

It would be physically impossible to discuss in this article every possible reason why people join a volunteer group. Generally speaking, they volunteer and join to satisfy a personal need. The majority of your volunteers though joined out of a need they have to serve the public or hobby in a way they best know how: as communicators. These are the volunteers you should direct your efforts toward. You've got to find out what their needs are before you can attempt to satisfy these. In short, the best way to find out why your members volunteered is to ask them!

As volunteers they have a right to expect courteous, considerate, fair and impartial treatment from the leadership. Courtesy is always in order; rudeness will cost us dearly. In addition to learning and compensating for their weaknesses and being tolerant of their faults, you must also consider their feelings. Don't forget that you are taking precious time from their families. They also have the right to expect you to make a reasonable effort to learn and apply the skills and techniques of communications management. You will be expected to make mistakes -- admit them openly, and learn from them as you grow into your new role. You will also be expected to keep them informed as to what is happening and why. Unfortunately, some members will expect much more of you than they have a right to expect, and often more than you can do. They may expect you to change situations over which you have no control, force other volunteers to change their habits, provide them with privileged treatment or status, fire a useful assistant because they happen to dislike him, or other equally inappropriate actions. In short, they will tend to forget that you deserve the same treatment from them that they expect from you. Each member has different job demands and family requirements, as well as other outside interests.

John D. Meyers, NB4K
Great Lakes Division
Division Legislative Action Chairman

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:

Newsletter Editor
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

Local News - Congratulations

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



Duane K8AO proudly shows his 5 band DXCC award for having confirmed QSO's with 100 different countries on each of the following bands, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters.
Congratulations Duane!

Jim Love has a new callsign KD8IGX is now W8JNL

Club Sponsored ARRL Membership

ARRL affiliated clubs can retain \$15 for each new membership and \$2 for each renewal. A new member is defined as any individual who has never been a member of the ARRL or who has not held membership for the past 2 years. A renewing member can renew at any time.

Please return climbing belt lanyard

Les - WA8LE would like to have whoever borrowed his lanyard to return it to him.

Helpful Hints

Monitoring Two Meters.

If you are like me you have two ways of monitoring the two meter band. You start off by scanning your memories to hear what is going on but then a qso starts up on a distant repeater that you are not really interested in, so you switch to the second way of monitoring which is to lock the receiver on a single channel (like 147.15) and continue monitoring. The disadvantage of single channel monitoring is that you miss out on other things you might be wanting to listen to (like the 147.55 IRLP Node). There is a third option that not many of us take advantage of. Organizing your memory channels into groups and then just scan the group you're interested in.

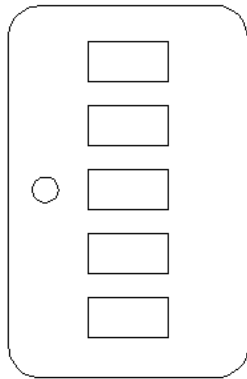
For example, I have three groups currently setup on my radio. Group 1 is 147.24 & 147.55, Group two is 147.24, 147.55, 147.15 & 145.13 and Group three consists of 147.24, 147.55, 147.15 145.13 & 146.700. I encourage you to try out this feature that nearly all radios have. If you haven't been listening to the IRLP node, you've been missing out on some fun and interesting QSO's.

One last comment on two meter operation that I've noticed, is operators not delaying long enough before speaking. Often all I hear is the last 2 letters of the callsign announcing that they are monitoring. P.S. I'm guilty of it too!

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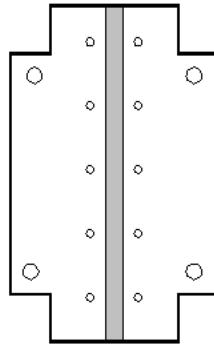
Homebrew Projects

After the Anderson Powerpole discussion we had have last month's meeting, I thought I would show some easy to make Homebrew "RigRunners" that I found on the 'net.



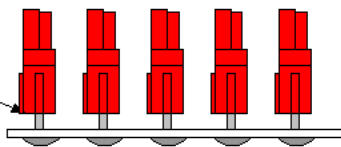
Template for cut outs, top of Radio Shack 3x2x1 project box Part # 270-1801

Note: Print out this drawing. Cut out templates. Tape to box and board cut out and/or drill where indicated.

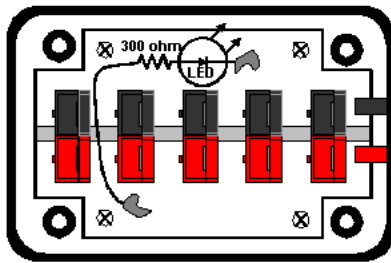


Cut copper-clad stock to above shape. (1.625" x 2.625"). Cut out corners to allow clearance for top mounting bosses. Drill corner mounting holes for #4 screw clearance (#42). Drill connector mounting holes 5/64 or #36. Remove copper down center with dremel tool or similar device. If you use double sided copper clad stock, remove copper from both sides.

#12 or #14 Gauge solid wire



Prepare 5 Anderson connector pairs using #12 (30 amp contacts) gauge or #14 (15 amp contacts) gauge solid wire. Space .125 inches off board. Use a 1/8" drill bit to space connectors off of board. Solder to board. Cut off excess.



Use screws to fasten board to box in the corners. Add wires thru box to board and solder. Add in-line fuse holder if desired. Add LED if desired to cover of box. Terminate wires in Anderson connector.

Notes/Revisions:
1/25/04 Fixed typo on drill size. Changed #46 to #36
Thanks KOGY

Drawn By:	Date:
Gerald Crenshaw WD4BIS	Nov. 15, 2002
Engineer:	Date:
Gerald Crenshaw WD4BIS	Nov. 15, 2002
Checked By:	Date:
Janet Crenshaw WB9ZPH	Nov. 15, 2002

From the bench of:
Amateur Radio Station WD4BIS

Title:
Powerpole D.C. Distributor

V. E. Testing

Gladstone

Oct 11th
9 am EST
Gladstone Library
Howard St. John W8HSJ
(906) 428-9476
w8hsj@dcars.org

Marquette

Sep 13th
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

July 19th
Hamfest Planning Meeting
Family Inn – 9 a.m.

August 2nd
UP Hamfest 2008
Escanaba

August 12th – 17th
U.P. State Fair
Escanaba

August 30th – Sept. 1st
U.P. Steam & Gas Assn.
Escanaba

September 15th
D.C.A.R.S. Picnic



The photo on the left shows another Homebrew panel, this one has the fuse built in. If you decide to build this one, make sure you get the poles in the right orientation. This project have the poles installed backwards.

<http://www.wentztech.com/radio/Projects/Projects.html>

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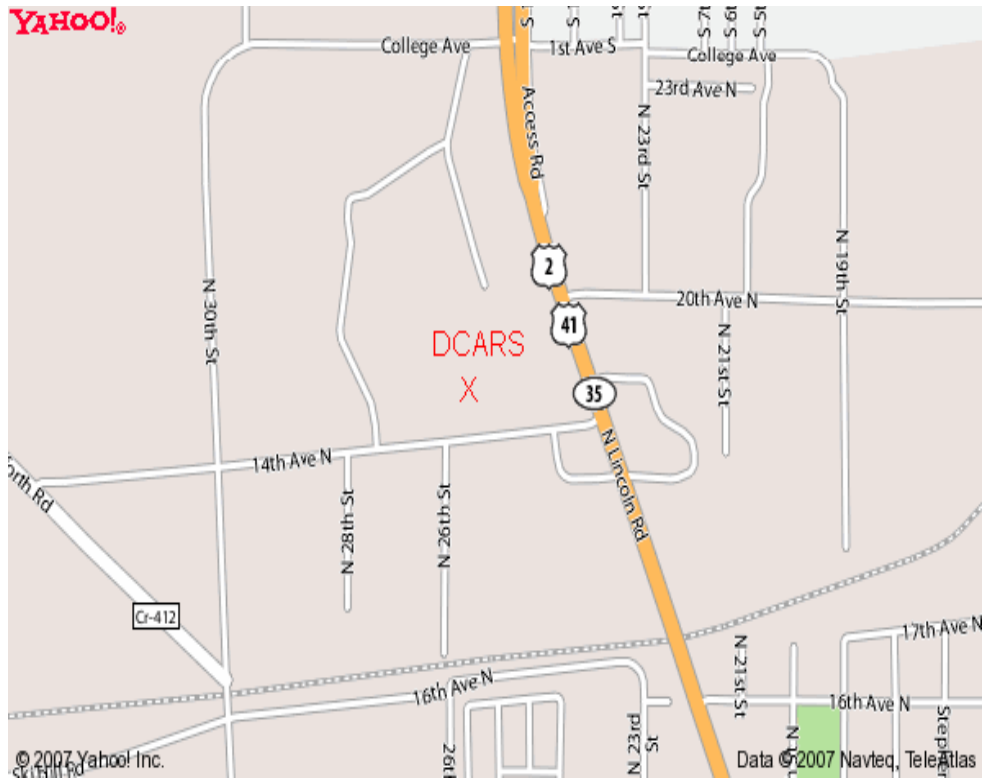
Meetings

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