

Air Scoop monthly

Delta County Amateur Radio Society Inc.

9560 CHAISON – N. ROAD

April - email GLADSTONE, Michigan 49837

2004

Delta County 2-meter Repeater – 147.150 + K8ZAS

Our Web Site - <http://www.geocities.com/k8zas/index.html> Jeremy Reese N8YP

Specialties: General Interest, Contests, 2 – Meter, local Repeater, Digital Modes. We have Communications available for **Emergency or Community Service Functions**. We welcome all, Anyone interested in “Amateur Radio” to our Monthly Meetings. Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each Month at “Bay-De-Noc Community College, Room #963 at 7:00 P.M. (Herman Building) South Side.

March 15th 2004 - Meeting

Club Officers - 2004

President – N8YP Jeremy Reese

V. President – KC8NUR Tony Marietta

Treasurer – N8OYR – Rich Thompson

Secretary-Newsletter Editor- KG8SQ Les Elder

All Newsletter information and Ideas can to be sent to Newsletter Editor Via E-Mail. Kg8sq@ham101.com. All letters, comments, stories, will be discussed before publication. Your help in making a great Newsletter will be greatly appreciated by all.

After publication, we forward our newsletter to our site Host at: www.ham101.com. You will be able to read, and download past issues, receive “Other” Ham Radio clubs information for the Upper Peninsula or Wisconsin. At this site, we welcome any and all Clubs to participate.

The **air scoop** is a monthly publication and will be distributed by E-Mail From our Master, DATABASE in PDF format. Anyone wishing a newsletter can download a copy from www.ham101.com or email your request to kg8sq@uplogon.com or any of our club officers.

A free download site from Adobe can be used to read this publication at:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

Our Club, once called – Bay-De-Noc Radio Club was formed for the purpose of having an Upper Peninsula Wide, Ham-fest in 1964. This first Ham-Fest for Escanaba became a reality in 1965. On September 1st 1970, local members met at the Northern Michigan National Bank and decided to affiliate with the ARRL, received its Charter on February 15, 1971. At this time, the name, DCARS or “Delta County Amateur Radio Society” was chosen.

Notice to all members, non-members

DCARS – ADDRESS CHANGE – NOTE: PLEASE ADDRESS ALL U.S. MAIL CORRESPONDANCE TO:
DCARS – TREASURER, RICHARD THOMPSON, 9560 CHAISON N. ROAD, GLADSTONE, MI 49837. INDIVIDUAL EMAIL CAN BE SENT TO OUR CLUB OFFICERS OR MEMBERS. IF YOU NEED AN EMAIL ADDRESS, NOTIFY OUR CLUB PRESIDENT, TREASURER OR SECRETARY. THANKYOU

DCARS – NEXT – MONTHLY MEETING – APRIL 19TH 2004 – BAY COLLEGE OFF DANFORTH ROAD, GROUND FLOOR, ROOM 963, HERMAN BUILDING, SOUTH SIDE. MEETING STARTS AT 7 PM. PLEASE JOIN US.

MONTHLY MEETING FOR THE DELTA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY INC.

Secretaries Report -Meeting of March 15th 2004.

Minutes:

Meeting called to order at 7pm by Jeremy N8YP.

Jeremy welcomed everyone here in attendance.

All club officers were present.

After introductions by everyone and their call given, the meeting got underway with:

The Treasures Report by Rich N8OYR. Motion to except by Dave N8DP, Seconded by Howard -N8HBK passed.

The Secretaries Report - was waved for the year and passed due to all the information will be in the newsletter for all to read.

Correspondence:

An email was received and read by Les KG8SQ from Larry WA8JWP regarding an article in the ARRL concerning how some ham clubs can get access for home security use several different types of equipment for club use. Due to homeland security being increased throughout the United States, Ham Clubs (being non-profit) could have some advantage in securing types of military vehicles for its use. Military surplus vehicles are being given also to various law enforcement agencies to help in securing the needs of communities and townships, city's and states.

Another email was received by Rich Thompson regarding a warm thank you from the coordinator Of the U.P. 200 Dog Sled event. We were all asked (our club) to participate in the annual event next year and would hope that more members would join in the fun as some check points were short of help during this long weekend.

Old Business:

Report by – John WD8RTH – regarding the upcoming U.P. Hamfest planned for Escanaba on August 7th 2004. John is again asking for volunteers to come to a meeting here at Bay College On April 7th to get something started with the hamfest. The time will be at 7pm.

A motion was made and seconded that the club pay the required fee to Noel Beardsley for the reconstruction and tuning and setting up of our newly acquired 2 meter repeater, Power Supply, Controller, and new Duplexers.

On March 18th 2004, Mark N8XAH and Les KG8SQ, Took the clubs new equipment and General Electric Base station repeater to Noel's home, North of Stephenson Michigan for upgrade. Noel stated it would take two or three weeks to complete depending on if he possibly would have to order

Any additional parts to complete the entire repeater package. He will notify Mark when he has this unit completed and we can then go and pick up the unit to replace the system we now have.

Update on Repeater: Crystals had to be reordered and replaced because of wrong frequencies that were shipped from Oklahoma crystal co. We should be back together soon.

Old Repeater when replaced, will be possibly sold or used as a link or remote base. It was brought up at the meeting that a decision would be made on what to do with the old system after our New system is up and running.

Club Inventory: Another point, that the club does have in its inventory 160 feet of hard line for a new tower installation and it might be in our best interest to check on prices of towers (i.e.# rohn 25) And find out the total cost to purchase a 160-foot tower and have this installed as our own tower system. The total tower package would be between \$1800.00 and 2500.00 depending on what or whom we would purchase a tower from.

Other old Business:

Jeremy brought up **Field Day** for this summer and keep in mind that we will be at Rich Thompson's again this year and hope everyone will attend this event.

Another thought was to have something like field day at the "**Light House**" here in Escanaba For special event status. This would also bring some attention to local citizens of our ham radio Status in this area.

Fox hunting get-together was another point as several other clubs in the U.P. are Fox hunting and it's becoming a large event on Wednesday nights during the week in Gwinn, Marquette, Rock, And some other surrounding areas. Our hope is that something can get started here. Maybe someone can start Wednesday nights at someone's house for kit building for the "Fox Kits" etc.

Tony brought up that he has **many club books in inventory** and that they are available and can Be had for reading at anytime by calling him on the radio. Rich was going to order some more Books for the club.

Insurance was tabled at this meeting as the club is looking into finding out just why we are paying for insurance we are not using. The only time insurance is needed is when we put on an event and invite the public to attend our function. Cost are being worked up to see what it would be just for The event on the day it happens instead of paying for an entire years worth of insurance. **Rich will give us an update at our next meeting on what he found out.**

The club will adjust and look at all expenses to cut down and find ways to save money. Cutting out postage and copy fees, traveling to and from the post office when only a monthly phone bill would be in the Post office box was to costly to keep. Being cost effective at this day and age would surely help out the club treasury.

All members and non-members are asked to look for the club Kenwood radio, TS-120 that seems to be missing from inventory. If anyone knows where or who is using this unit, please let Jeremy or any club officer know where it is. Anyone with any club equipment is asked to again list and send to Rich Thompson, so he can have the entire inventory together. In the future this will be put in a secure location and one person will have the key so anything will not be forgotten.

Ham Radio Operators in Escanaba also brought several points up regarding "Emergency Communications". There is some need for classes or updates with local law enforcement agency's that would benefit all of us, so that we would be prepared in a civil emergency.

New Business:

No other new business at this time.

Announcements:

Be sure and attend the meeting on April 7th at Bay for the U.P. Ham fest. John needs all the volunteers he can get for this event. You may call him on the 2 meters repeater evenings.

John – Wd8rth has a new email address: wd8rth@charter.net

Meeting Adjournment: 810 PM

A Short question and answer period after the meeting was held with a few remaining members. Dave N8DP gave a few examples of antenna wire building on the black board and had a few Members thinking of again that spring is around the corner and time for antenna building.

Respectfully submitted by kg8sq – club secretary..

ITEMS FOR SALE

**Kenwood TS 530S – At-230- sp-230, Kenwood 2 meter TM-2570A, TR-7800, TM-2550A, Astron Power Supply 35 AMP w/meter, HyGAIN Rotor.
Call Bob McCutcheon N8FIK, 789-9784.**

Wanted 30 ft tower, Notify Les kg8sq@uplogon.com . Anyone having anything for sale, please notify editor for publication into Our Newsletter.

Arrl newsline from website



ARRL Encouraging "Thoughtful, Considered" Comments on Proposed BPL Rules

NEWINGTON, CT, Mar 24, 2004--The ARRL will comment by the deadline on the FCC's proposals to amend its Part 15 rules to adopt new requirements and measurement guidelines for so-called "Access BPL" systems that provide broadband access via electric utility power lines. Comments are due May 3. The deadline for reply comments is June 1. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, says the League recommends that members read the FCC's Broadband over Power Line *Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)* in ET Dockets 03-104 and 04-37, then develop their own thoughtful, considered comments. The ARRL advocates filing comments that specifically address the FCC's BPL proposals, reflect positively on the amateur community and, if possible, offer alternative recommendations. "It's important to remember four things," Sumner said.

"First, this is not a proceeding to 'permit' or 'authorize' BPL. BPL is already permitted under the existing Part 15 rules. Second, the *NPRM* reaffirms the important principle that licensed services must be protected from harmful interference and are not required to protect BPL systems; this is good, but we can't take it for granted nor can we assume that the principle will be honored in practice."

"Third," Sumner went on, "the *NPRM* proposes additional, new constraints on BPL to protect licensed services. The FCC did not go far enough, but at least the proposals aim in the right direction."

"Finally, while we continue to believe firmly that BPL is a very bad idea, arguing that the FCC should 'ban BPL' will not get us anywhere." Sumner says that instead, amateurs must document beyond any doubt the levels of protection that must be given to over-the-air services, then leave it for others to decide whether BPL is feasible within those limits.

"We need to prove that the risk of interference is significantly greater than the BPL proponents say it is," Sumner continued. "There is far more evidence of that now than there was when the FCC opened its *Notice of Inquiry* last April."

Sumner also asserted that the FCC's proposed "interference mitigation" requirements fall far short of providing real protection from harmful interference, and that the Commission is ignoring the practical problems that will arise when Amateur Radio transmissions disrupt BPL systems.

BPL and the FCC Rules

Access BPL is a form of carrier current or power line carrier (PLC) communication. It would apply RF in the HF to low-VHF range to existing low and medium-voltage exterior power lines to distribute Internet and broadband services. It was the aspect of feeding RF signals into outdoor power lines that initially raised Amateur Radio concerns regarding potential interference.

Carrier current systems are subject to the FCC's Part 15 rules governing unlicensed devices, and the FCC has acknowledged that "amateur operations are likely to present a difficult challenge" to BPL deployment, especially in the case of hams--an estimated 150,000 of them--who use high-gain antennas sited near power lines. The proposed rules remain silent on the issue of mitigating BPL interference to the estimated 70,000 Amateur Radio HF mobile stations.

"Interference Mitigation"

At the February 12 FCC open meeting where the *NPRM* was adopted, Commission staff spoke of requiring that the BPL industry maintain a database accessible to the public to assist in locating BPL system operators. However, the actual proposals contained in the *NPRM* do not mandate a publicly accessible database. "These and other shortcomings must be resolved in order for interference mitigation to be an acceptable strategy in the case of fixed stations," Sumner said.

The League also wants the FCC to establish performance standards for BPL interference mitigation. "To offer any real protection to licensed services, the rules must require that interference be resolved immediately," he said. "There must be severe enforcement penalties for failure to resolve a complaint in real time and for failure to maintain the database."

Interference mitigation for mobile stations "is clearly impractical," Sumner asserted. "Since BPL systems operating at the present Part 15 limit cause harmful interference to mobiles, the only solution is an absolute limit on radiated emissions that is lower than the present limit. We are in the process of determining scientifically what that limit must be."

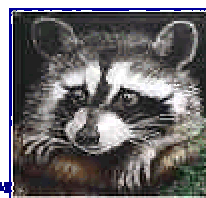
Interference Reports Wanted!

The League especially encourages anyone, particularly radio amateurs, who has actually experienced BPL

interference to file detailed comments documenting the interference. "It is extremely important that anyone who has suffered interference that is confirmed to have been caused by BPL to get their experiences into the record, in detail," Sumner said. "BPL proponents claim they are not getting interference complaints. If we let them claim their systems are 'clean' when we know they aren't, shame on us." Sumner said the League also will continue to encourage "affected interests outside the amateur community" to comment. The League urges anyone who opposes BPL to file comments, either supporting the ARRL's comments or by offering their own arguments.

Commenting on this NPRM

The deadline to file comments is Monday, May 3. Reply comments are due Tuesday, June 1. Interested individuals and organizations may file comments via the Internet using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System ([ECFS](#)). The FCC asks that anyone filing comments on this NPRM do so "only in the newly established ET Docket No 04-37," the FCC said March 22 in a public notice, not in the *NOI* proceeding, Docket No 03-104.



"Home of the RASCAL"

ANTENNAS, ACCESSORIES, CONNECTORS, AND COMPONENTS

Get Well Wishes for: WD8PAJ - LANE

As most of you are aware of our good ham friend and Standing Wave newsletter publisher Lane, WD8PAJ went through a serious operation in mid February. The latest report is he is on the road to recovery and while it will take some time for him to fully recover, he is on the mend. If you like to drop him a card and note here is his current address: Highland @ New Castle Place, 12600 N. Port Washington Place # 300, Larry Dube, Room J 21, Mequon, WI 53092

The Radio Flyer E-News The Marshall Swap went great! It was well attended and we got a chance to eyeball some of our South Eastern members and chat about coming events. Member Dave Clark, W8DO was also at our club tables, he is the ARRL DXCC field checker. We saw at least 23 members at the swap but getting them all to the club tables at 10:00 AM was not easy with the many goodies that this swap offers! We also hope to do the Holland - ARRL- swap this year...more later.

Michigan DX Association Calendar Coming Attractions And Events, The Great Lakes QSO Party Yes folks this is our very own Qso Party! It is the largest Regional QSO Party in the Nation with Over 700 counties in 8 States and the Province of Ontario! This is the 3rd running of the GLQP Sponsors are Com Da C and the Michigan DX Association. The Great Lakes QSO Party starts on May 29th@ 0000Z We offer Trophies in (both) SSB and CW. You will be able to submit your Scores Online! For more information Visit <http://www.mdxa1.org/1aglqp.html>

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum Activation This July 14th the Michigan DX Association will activate the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, MI using our Special call K8F. We hope to also activate on Saturday the 17th. We already have permission for this activation. Soon we will start a Team List and an Equipment List. Each member will be informed and asked if He or She wishes to participate. If the member replies and is interested, we will keep them informed

of each detail. Please reply via e-mail when requested, we have 124 members and the vast majority are long distance calls for me. I also do not have the time to make phone calls. July 14th is President Fords Birthday...Admission to the museum is FREE on this date! We have a nice trailer that we can use for this event...stay tuned!

Michigan DX Association Net's Every Tuesday Night @ 9:00 PM We have our net on the Lowell Repeater 145.270- PL-94.8 Our Net Control is Dave Smith KC8PCL. This net features our Elmer's On The Air Segment and News-line. Think you can't get into the Lowell Repeater from where you live? Think again.. This is a Wide coverage repeater...covering Grand Rapids, Big-Rapids, Muskegon St. Joe, Mount Pleasant and Battle Creek! Our members have also been heard on Midcars 7.258 MHz

Michigan DX Association Lighthouse Activation We plan to activate our 5th Lighthouse this August. We are affiliated with the ARLHS and we hope to activate the Montague Lighthouse sometime in August. Stay turned!

Non club contests....Michigan Qso Party sponsored by (Mad River) takes place this April 17th @ 1600Z If you choose to participate in this event we ask our members to submit their scores in the name of the Michigan DX Association.To: Mad River....Visit their website for more information! That's it for this edition of the Ham Radio Flyer!

PRESIDENTS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2004

Jeremy Reese, N8YP n8yp@arrl.net

Well, here we go again. I didn't realize how quickly the weeks pass by now that I am working 6-day weeks, and filling up at the gas station, I checked my watch and saw the date. Unfortunately with this new schedule, my requests for time off cannot always be filled. This will happen for this meeting. May and June can be the same way, but after that, I will be back on schedule. With 8 hours of overtime a week, I have to take the bad with the good.

There are one or two things to report. First is, we have a listing for the Society. This will help Les immensely to send out the newsletter. You will have to go to www.yahogroups.com and sign up for a membership. It doesn't cost anything to join. Then send an email to dcars-subscribe@yahogroups.com and request to join. This will allow several new things. One, it will save Les quite some time, instead of sending out small mailings over dialup for getting out the newsletter, he just sends it to the group and everyone will receive it. Another item is that anyone can access the group at once, if you need help with anything, you email dcars@yahogroups.com and the entire group receives the email. We have storage space if you have a photo you want to share or a schematic that you want to share. This is a private list, and I have to approve every member. So, please make sure that you include your call sign so I know to add you. This is a great idea for sharing some information.

Another item is a new section of the newsletter. Dave, N8DP, and I were chatting and he gave me a tip. I thought it was a great idea, and he thought we should have **a monthly tip**. Please, if you have a tip, email me so we can get it in the newsletter.

I hope to get this off on the right foot, but I am going to work on getting a program each month for

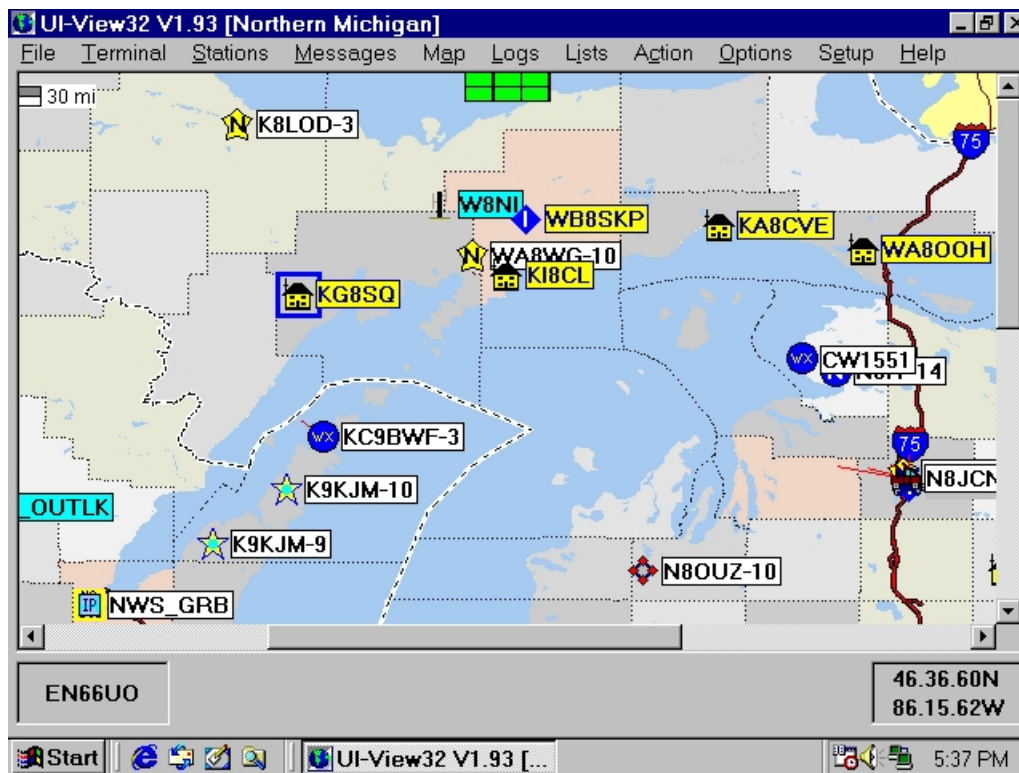
Our **DCARS** meeting. It can be as professional as a Weather presentation, or just a new radio that you bought. If you have an idea for a demonstration or program, please email me at n8yp@arrl.net and share your ideas. We want the meeting to be fun after the business section, something you will look forward to attending. Meetings will be shorter than normal and allow for the program. Please let me know if you have any suggestions. With that, I am going to conclude this article. A few things are in the works for next month. **Take a look at the yahoo groups site and email me your suggestions or tips.**

Thank you and 73,
Jeremy Reese, N8YP
MP133.25 on the CN Ore Sub
<http://www.geocities.com/jreese12380/index.html>

President
Delta County Amateur Radio Society
www.geocities.com/k8zas/index.html

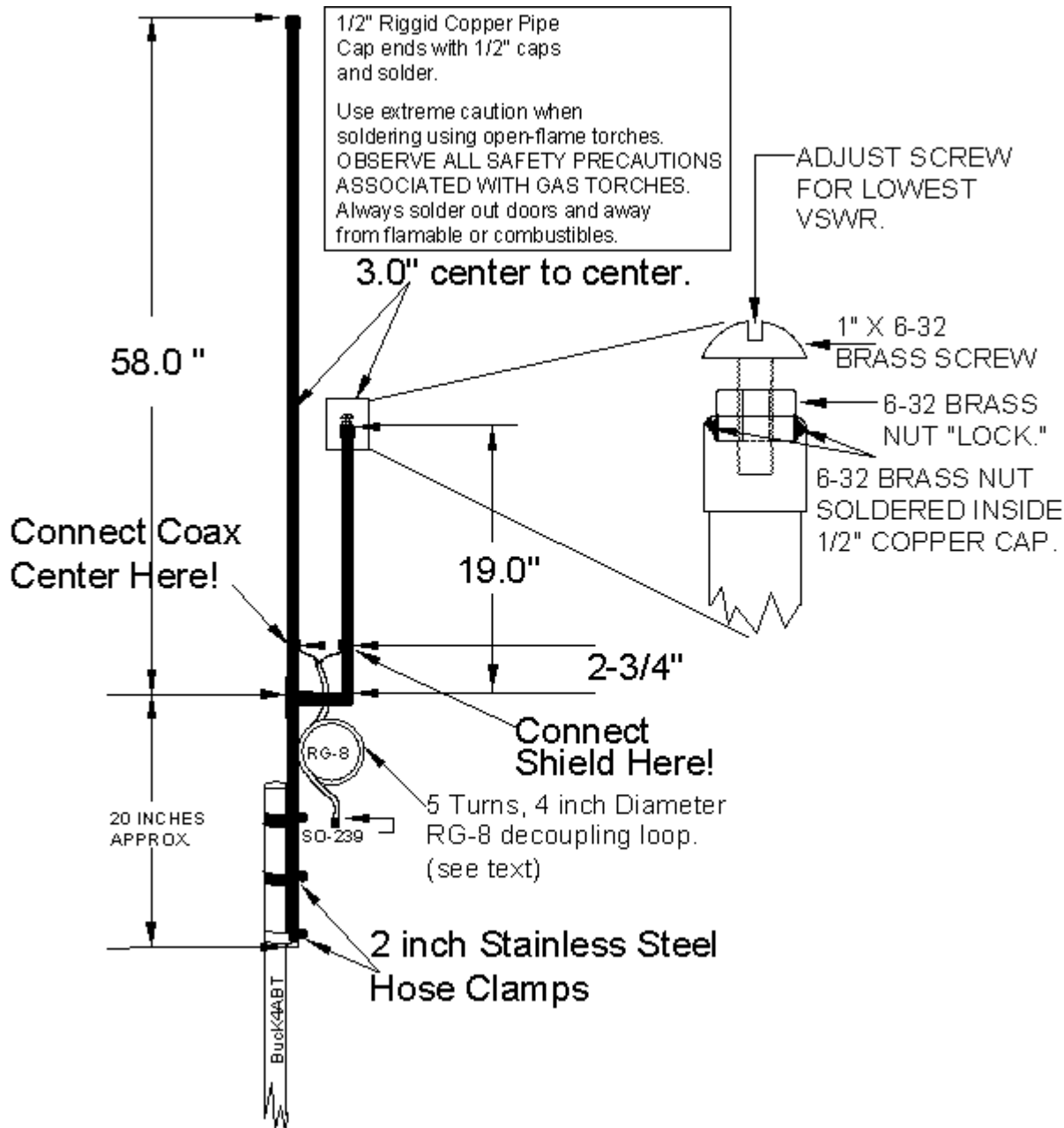
Membership Chairman
Soo Line Historical & Technical Society
membership@sooline.org
<http://www.sooline.org>

APRS IS UP AND RUNNING IN THE UPPER PENINSULA OF MI



APRS is now up and running full strength in the Upper Peninsula. More to come in next newsletter.

An adjustable VSWR, 2 meter J-Pole



Two Meter J-POLE WITH VSWR ADJUSTMENT.

2004 MICHIGAN QSO PARTY

Attention Michigan Amateurs. Spring is here and it's time for the **Michigan QSO Party**. This is a great opportunity to get on the HF bands, have some fun, and represent the great State of Michigan. The organizers of this event would like to see as many Michigan stations on the air as possible. It is the activity of the Michigan stations that will make this event a success. This event, like other state QSO parties has seen an increase in activity in recent years. Last year, the number of MIQP logs submitted, were up by 69% and the total QSO count was up by 27%. The MIQP is getting bigger and better every year. With the

continued support of those that have discovered the fun and the addition of some new blood, the MIQP will continue to grow. It is now considered one of the better QSO parties in the country.

As you can see from the rules listed below, **this is only a 12 hour event**. Please consider getting on the air for the whole thing, or any portion of the 12-hour period. You can operate from home, portable, or mobile. We again, with the support of mobile stations plan on having some activity in all 83 counties.

How about making this a club event? You can submit your individual or multi-op scores under the name of the club and maybe bring home the club plaque. Hey, why not challenge another local area club or other groups within your club? Are there others in your club that would consider a mini expedition for a portable operation in one of the Michigan counties with minimal activity?? Those of you that have been in the QSO Party, please help us get the word out and encourage other Michiganders to participate and join the fun. The name of the game is to have fun and make Michigan "Radio Active" on April 17th. **Hope to hear you on the air!**

Date /Time: Michigan QSO Party, sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club, from 1600Z April 17th until 0400Z April 18th. Stations may operate the full 12 hours. (12 noon to 12 midnight local Michigan time on April 17)

SEE YOU ON THE RADIO

BE SAFE OUT THERE

73

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
MARCH MEETING NEWS – APRIL PRINTING 2004

LES ELDER, EDITOR DCARS

NOTE:

IF YOU HAVE ANY ARTICLES OR NEWS, WEB SITE LOOKUPS OR ANYTHING REGARDING HAM RADIO, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO EMAIL INFORMATION TO ANY CLUB OFFICER OR TO EDITOR: KG8SQ@HAM101.COM OR KG8SQ@UPLOGON.COM

PAGE 10 FINAL PAGE FOR THIS MONTH