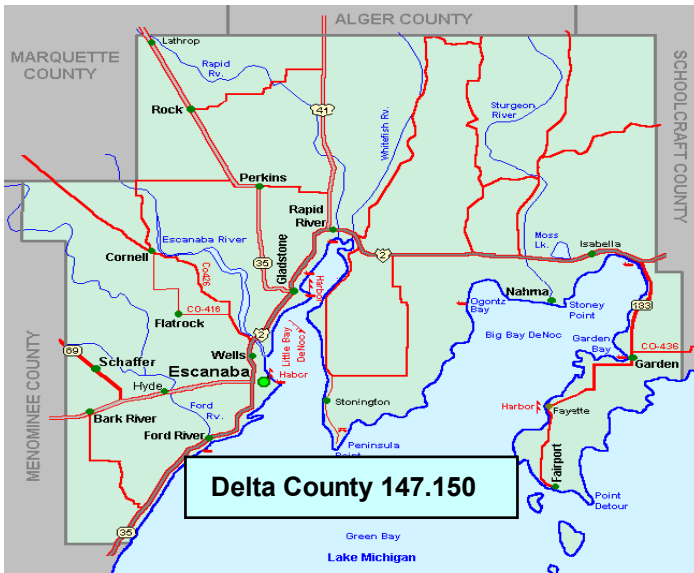


# Air Scoop monthly

Newsletter of the Delta County Amateur Radio Society

August 2006



**Air Scoop monthly** – is the official newsletter For "The Delta County Amateur Radio Society" Club Inc., serving members and families.

You do not have to be an Amateur Radio Licensed Operator to belong to our organization. Individuals, including out of town persons are welcome to join our club and participate in our programs and functions.

Many events affiliated with the American Radio League take place within our organization. Project nights on Monday nights, community functions, Emergency handling of traffic via "Ham Radio" Are all part of what we do.

Our great hobby brings many out to our "Field Day" event, held during the last weekend of June yearly. This summers "Field Day" will be held at the Escanaba State Fair Grounds. The two day around the clock event will test the skills of local operators and the various modes of radio communications throughout the United States, Canada, and around the world. Please support our club by attending.

Classes for beginners are held yearly at Bay College, along with testing for hams that wish to upgrade licensing to a greater level. Volunteer Examiner's hold testing (4-times) per year at Bay De-Noc Community College. If you are interested or know of someone that is interested in electronics and the many, many, facets of amateur radio, you and your friends are welcome to join in the festivities.

## All - Emailed Newsletters

Are sent approximately 7 days prior to our monthly meetings held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month unless our President calls a special meeting. Please come and join us.

All members and non-members are welcome to Submit written articles, pictures, materials, clip-art for publication into our newsletter. Copyright materials cannot be printed without the permission from the appropriate legal authority.

Please include such disclaimers in all materials submitted to the Newsletter Editor at [W8LE @ U.P. Logon.com](mailto:W8LE@U.P.Logon.com) or [hambone@uplogon.com](mailto:hambone@uplogon.com)

## DCARS – CLUB HISTORY

Our Organization, once called – "Bay-De-Noc Radio Club" was formed for the purpose of having an Upper Peninsula Wide, Ham-fest in 1964. This first HamFest for Escanaba became a reality in 1965.

On September 1<sup>st</sup> 1970, Local "Ham" 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.

PLEASE SEND ALL MAIL, YEARLY DUES TO:

INCLOSE - \$15.00, make check or money order to:

**DCARS**

**RICHARD THOMPSON - TREASURER**

**9560 CHAISON N. ROAD,  
GLADSTONE, MI 49837.**

INDIVIDUAL EMAIL CAN BE SENT TO OUR CLUB OFFICERS OR MEMBERS. Email information can be found at our website – [www.dcars.org](http://www.dcars.org).

Any address, call, or email changes can be sent to the newsletter editor to update the database for our club. If you have “Ham related items for sale” please send 1 week prior to Newsletter publication.

All pictures, articles, information you would like to see in at our website, please send to Joe Thompson, our club Webmaster at [w8jrt@arrl.net](mailto:w8jrt@arrl.net)

LOCAL REPEATERS

147.150 + FM  
145.130 - FM  
APRS DIGI 144.390

2006 DCARS – OFFICERS

President - Dave Palmgren – N8DP  
V. President - Tony Marietta – KC8NUR  
Treasurer - Rich Thompson – N8OYR  
Secretary - Joe Thompson – W8JRT  
Newsletter Editor - Les Elder – WA8LE  
Club Librarian - Tony Marietta - KC8NUR  
HamFest Chairman – John Anderson WD8RTH  
Field Day – Chairman – Les Elder – WA8LE  
Remember our club officers are here to Help you, please give them a call.

Monthly Meeting Time: 7:00 PM

Welcome to The Delta County Amateur Radio Society, monthly meeting this 3rd Monday of the month. Our meeting is held monthly at 7 P.M., at Bay-De-Noc, Community College, Room #963. Located in the glassed in area at the Joseph Heirman University Center. Park in the South Lot off Danforth Road. Just watch for antennas on vehicles.

DCARS w8jrt - Meeting Minutes from June 19th, 2006 – Joe Thompson Secretary

Meeting called to order by N8DP, Dave.

Dave reported that the repeater now has an access tone of 107.2. (147.150+)

Members present were: Duane, K8AO, Kenny, Kd8DVL, Mark, KD8DVN, Mike, KD8DKB, Ken, KD8DKC, John, WD8RTH, Walt, KD8DKD, Lowell, KA8RPB, Dave, N8DP, Tony, KC8NUR, Joe, W8JRT, John, WD8RTH.

Old Business:

The club sent flowers for Hanks w8zmn - funeral.

\$12.00 from the last testing session applied to cost of headphones the club purchased.

Field Day- logging software problems were due to multiple versions of the software being used. Will be corrected for next year's event.  
Hamfest- Aug 5th -Saturday. 19 tables sold thus far. (Our main event of the year.)

Vendor's, local **J. B. Stitches** will have a table for shirts and hats to purchase also.

Another vendor, **ComDac**, from Hillman, Michigan along with **Stanley Strangle Ham Radio** of Painsdale Michigan.  
Talk-in for directions.

A door prize donation from Keweenaw club in the form of a Hand book.

Correspondence:

A request for tower help this coming spring. More details to follow.

New Business:

Mark presented that it would be nice to have some amateur radio books in the library. Suggested that the club donate. Tabled for future discussion.

Club patches (2) will be at the August HamFest For club viewing and purchasing.  
Next test session second Saturday of October, 14th. 2006.

John motion to adjourn. Toni Second.

## August 5<sup>th</sup> – Hamfest 2006

The DCARS – HAMFEST on August 5<sup>th</sup> 2006 turned into a very nice event this year. Everything came together for the event and only one vendor from Ishpeming could not make the event. Event Chairman John Anderson, wd8rth had several monthly meetings to coordinate the game plan. ComDac a vendor from the Lower Peninsula of Michigan came and set up wall to wall tables for selling. Duane Durlinger – KX8D, and Barbara Durlinger – N8JML owners did an outstanding job in presenting a complete line of Ham Radio items for sale. We wish to thank them for coming to our event this year and welcome them for a return trip.

[COMDAC - www.condac.com](http://www.condac.com)



GRAND PRIZE – WON BY

KD8DBF – HOWARD, GRAND MARAIS MI

DOOR PRIZES – WERE MAILED OUT

J.B. Stitches – Embroidered Hats, sweatshirts, club attire including tee-shirts club emblems, call letter hats – PH 233-1794



STANLEY STRANGE – ELECTRONIC SALES – Paynesdale Michigan 906-827-3526



OFFICERS OF U.P. NET – FORUM HELD



Hope aa8sn, Aileen wa8dhd, Al k8bl

## U.P. HAMFEST – FOOD TECH'S



## FORUMS HELD THIS YEAR

U.P. Net Annual Meeting  
Upper Peninsula Repeater Association  
Geo-caching, Fox hunting  
Amateur Packet Radio System  
National Weather Service

## FCC Denies Reconsideration Petitions, Adopts Minor Changes to BPL Rules

NEWINGTON, CT, Aug 3, 2006 -- An FCC that's still optimistic and enthusiastic about BPL met August 3 to consider and unanimously adopt a *Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O)* in response to several petitions for reconsideration of its BPL rules -- including [one from ARRL](#). But one commissioner stressed that the FCC has an obligation to protect Amateur Radio operators from BPL interference and to respond promptly to interference complaints. ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, and General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, were on hand for today's meeting during which the FCC suggested it was attempting to strike a balance between interference to licensed services and the BPL industry's needs.

"This rule making proceeding was initiated to provide regulatory certainty that will encourage investments in BPL, particularly so that consumers can reap the benefits," an FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) official told the commissioners. "Equally important, the Commission sought to ensure that licensed radio services are protected against harmful

interference." The OET said the Commission also wanted to provide guidance so compliance measurements "are made in a consistent manner with repeatable results."

The FCC adopted its current BPL rules -- under a new Subpart G of its Part 15 rules governing unlicensed devices -- in October 2004.



**FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps [FCC Photo]**

**Radio  
Amateurs  
"Deserve  
Better"**

Commenting  
after the OET's presentation of the *MO&O*, Commissioner Michael J. Copps reiterated that the FCC must also ensure that BPL providers protect

existing spectrum users from interference.

"This applies with special force to Amateur Radio operators whose skills and dedication once again proved so valuable in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina," Copps remarked. "Amateur radio serves the public interest in so many ways that we must be always mindful of its needs."

Copps said he believes the FCC's *MO&O* "strikes an acceptable balance," but added that the Commission "must be available and positioned to respond to interference complaints with alacrity. Amateur operators shouldn't have to wait for months to get complaints resolved -- they deserve better."

## **Most Reconsideration Petitions Denied**

Addressing the various reconsideration petitions, the OET's Anh Wride noted that the BPL industry asked to extend the deadline for equipment compliance and to modify public BPL database requirements. Licensed services such as Amateur Radio, on the other hand, wanted the FCC to keep BPL providers from using certain frequencies -- the HF ham bands in the case of the ARRL's petition.

The Commission denied the industry's request to extend the effective date to meet equipment certification requirements, but it did create a limited exception. "Because BPL equipment manufacturers are only now submitting equipment for certification under the new rules, the *Order* includes a measure of relief to permit the continued operation of existing systems," Wride said.

BPL systems now will have another year to continue installing or replacing equipment "that otherwise meets the Part 15 rules" in their present coverage areas. "This relief is a reasonable accommodation that will limit the proliferation of non-compliant equipment," Wride said.

The *Order* also denies the BPL industry's request to drop the 30-day advance notification requirement for the public BPL database. "The advance notification to the BPL database ensures that other licensed users are aware of new BPL deployments in their area in advance of the start of BPL operations," Wride said.

The *Order* also turned down requests by licensed users, including Amateur Radio operators, to exclude the use of certain frequencies for BPL operations.

"The American Radio Relay League and a number of individual Amateur Radio licensees request that all BPL deployment be prohibited pending the adoption of a definition for 'harmful interference,' the completion of all ongoing studies of BPL and the initiation of further studies of BPL interference characteristics." Wride continued.

In addition, Wride said, the FCC denied requests to keep BPL signals off overhead medium-voltage lines and to impose more stringent technical restrictions and measurement requirements on BPL operations.

"The Commission has taken a proactive approach regarding the protection of licensed radio services in the [2004] *Report & Order* by placing additional technical and operational restrictions on BPL systems," Wride asserted. She said the OET believes the requirements the FCC adopted in 2004 regarding emission levels and notching "are adequate to fully protect amateur operations." She said going along with ARRL's request to reconsider, rescind and re-study the BPL rules in further proceedings could leave radio

amateurs with less protection than they now have.

The FCC did grant a request from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to expand BPL exclusion zones in the vicinity of certain radio astronomy systems.

"We continue to believe that the interference concerns associated with the operation of these systems are adequately addressed through the adoption of Access BPL rules in Part 15, particularly as a new generation of BPL equipment that complies with our rules becomes available," Wride concluded.

### **Cheerleading**



**FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin**  
[FCC Photo]

As his predecessor Michael Powell did before him, FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin led the cheering squad for BPL, which, he said, "holds great promise as a ubiquitous broadband solution that

would offer a viable alternative to cable, digital subscriber line, fiber, and wireless broadband solutions."

His Republican colleague Deborah T. Tate echoed Martin's enthusiasm, calling the FCC's goal of ubiquitous broadband deployment in the US "an exciting prospect." She went on to say that the FCC will continue to find an appropriate balance between regulation to mitigate potential negative 'side effects' that accompany BPL "and a hands-off approach that gives BPL the room it needs to develop in a free market." She said the MO&O "strikes the right balance with minimal regulatory burdens."

### **Another BPL Item Deferred**

At the last minute, the FCC deferred another BPL-related item, to consider the United Power Line Council's *Petition for Declaratory Ruling* (WC

Docket 06-10) regarding the classification of BPL Internet access service as an "information service."

The FCC released a [public notice](#) to report its August 3 BPL-related actions. The *MO&O* it adopted is not expected to become available to the public for a few weeks.

## [This summer, W8BSC was on the air.](#)

08/02/2006

### **Radio club provides Boy Scout camp with electronics building**

Thanks to volunteers from the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club, Boy Scouts and Webelos camping at Camp Greilick this summer can earn merit badges in amateur radio, computers and electronics.

A new 384-square-foot building — dubbed the Radio Shack — houses a host of amateur radio, computer and electronics equipment. Over the past four weeks of Boy Scout camp, this equipment has kept interested Boy Scouts nearby, earning some the designation of Shack Lizard after they receive all three badges.

Using the radio equipment on one side of the building, Scouts have contacted HAMS both locally and around the country or practiced their Morse code skills. Workbenches along the other side of the building are filled with circuit boards, chips, soldering irons and other electronics paraphernalia.

"I've learned how to do QSOs and make the signal efficient," said Alex Dewitt, a member of Troop 119 from Bay City. "I'm just getting into amateur radio. I'm still waiting to see if I can get anybody from Canada yet."

Jill Raymer, a scout mom, volunteer staff member with the Scenic Trails Council and a volunteer with the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club, supervises the Radio Shack. Seemingly everywhere at once and with a great passion for both scouting and amateur radio, the Radio Shack is a slice of nirvana.

"What I like about the station is that we're real busy: we went through 100 badges in a week," said Raymer, a Manton resident who is also a member

of the Wexaukee Amateur Radio Club. "Everybody is at least learning about radio even if they're not earning a badge." Submitted by N8DP – Dave

## [President's Message](#)

Over the years I have had an opportunity to visit various clubs and organizations and for the most part they had one thing in common, the meeting was generally boring. One exception to that was the Wells Lions club. They had a short meeting to take care of business then they had a steak feed. I don't know if that was a typical meeting or not but it was very enjoyable. When I was elected to the President job I wanted to create a similar atmosphere to the Lion club, a meeting that was enjoyable to attend. So I've been attempting to have a program after a short business meeting. The program doesn't have to be long or complicated but I need your help. If you have a new piece of gear bring it to the meeting for a show and tell. If you have been experimenting with something new, show it at the meeting. Look for anything that might be of interest to your fellow hams. The alternative is a long boring meeting. Please don't make me do that!

73

Dave - N8DP

### [WX4NHC ANNOUNCEMENT](#) [Released August 2, 2006, 3 PM EDT](#)

WX4NHC, the Amateur Radio Station at the National Hurricane Center in Miami will activate operations Friday, August 4th at 8 AM EDT (1200z) as Tropical Storm Chris is forecast to become a hurricane on its approach to the Turks & Caicos Islands. We anticipate continuing operations during the track through the southern Bahamas and eventual approach to the Florida Keys and South Florida peninsula this weekend.

There are many constantly changing atmospheric variables that affect the storm's track and strength. Please refer to the National Hurricane Center Advisories for official information. [www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov)

WX4NHC will be providing back-up communications for NHC using Amateur Radio to the NWS Field Offices and other governmental agencies located in the affected area via HF, VHF and VOIP modes. We

ask that all NWS Field Offices in the affected have an Amateur Radio Station equipped with battery backup in operation for backup communications to NHC and NWS. During Hurricane Katrina, Ham Radio was the only means of communications between NHC, NWS Regional and the Slidell NWSFO (W5SLA) for over 6 hours. Vital information was passed during the peak winds of 138 MPH in addition to NWS personnel, building damage and equipment status.

WX4NHC will be monitoring the Hurricane Watch Net on 14.325 MHz. Secondary HF frequencies will be 7.268 MHz and 3.950 MHz ± QRM, should propagation on 20 meters go out.

EchoLink WX-Talk Conference Room and IRLP node 9219 will also be monitored.  
[www.voipwx.net](http://www.voipwx.net)

WX4NHC will also monitor CWOP, APRS and MADIS/MESONET Automated weather stations in the affected area.

Surface Reports using our Hurricane Report form will be monitored. Amateur Weather Enthusiasts and ON-NHC Volunteers may report directly to WX4NHC on-line at .

ON-NHC Volunteers are both Ham Radio Operators and Non-Ham weather observers that use their own weather instruments to submit "Surface Reports" directly to NHC over the Internet via the WX4NHC on-line report form. These "Surface Reports" are very important as they give Hurricane Specialists at NHC a better idea of what is actually happening on the ground level during the storm.

The WX4NHC Group continues to expand its efforts to increase the quantity and quality of surface reports to include many different modes of reception and groups of people; including HF, VHF/UHF IRLP & ECHOLink, VHF & HF APRS, CWOP NOAA Program, CARMEN Program and ON-NHC Weather Observers Network. (see our web site for more information on these programs): .

WX4NHC is very proud to have maintained an active Amateur Radio Station at the National Hurricane Center for the past 26 years.

We appreciate all of the volunteers who help with our efforts.

-----  
Julio Ripoll WD4R  
WX4NHC Amateur Radio Asst. Coordinator

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72,  
JT Croteau - W6FO - Canton, GA  
ARS #2,147 | NoGA-QRP | SEDXC | ARRL  
[Back to top](#)

## [FCC SUSPENDS HAM LICENSES FOR FAILURE TO MAINTAIN MAILING ADDRESS](#)

### From the ARRL Letter

The FCC has suspended two Amateur Radio licenses because the holders had failed to maintain correct mailing addresses in the Commission's licensee database. Special Counsel in the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth wrote Larry L. Smith, KC7LJR, of Middleton, Idaho, and Larry J. Maniag, KD7JTG, of Payson, Arizona, on June 28 to inform them the FCC was suspending their Technician tickets for the remainder of their license terms or until each licensee provides a valid mailing address.

In his letter to Smith, Hollingsworth noted that on three occasions in late 2005, the FCC had been unable to deliver warning notices alleging deliberate interference to a 2-meter repeater system.

He told Maniag that the US Postal Service earlier this year returned as undeliverable two warning notices alleging deliberate interference with several repeaters.

Hollingsworth cited §97.23 of the Commission's Amateur Radio Service rules that requires each license grant to show the licensee's correct name and mailing address. The rule provides that "revocation of the station license or suspension of the operator license may result when correspondence from the FCC is returned as undeliverable because the grantee failed to provide the correct mailing address."

Hollingsworth cited the same rule to an Ohio licensee apparently tempting a similar fate. On June 26 Hollingsworth afforded Robert D. Reckner, W8IQJ, more time to respond to complaints involving his service **as MIDCARS net control**. The complaint alleges deliberate interference as a result of his starting the net on top of existing communications on 7.258 MHz in April. And June 1 letter enclosing the complaint came back to the FCC as undeliverable.

***Newsletter completed by Les – wa8le editor***

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**D.C.A.R.S.  
DELTA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO  
C/o Richard Thompson - Treasurer  
9560 Chaison – N. Road  
Gladstone, Mi.  
49837**

Stamp

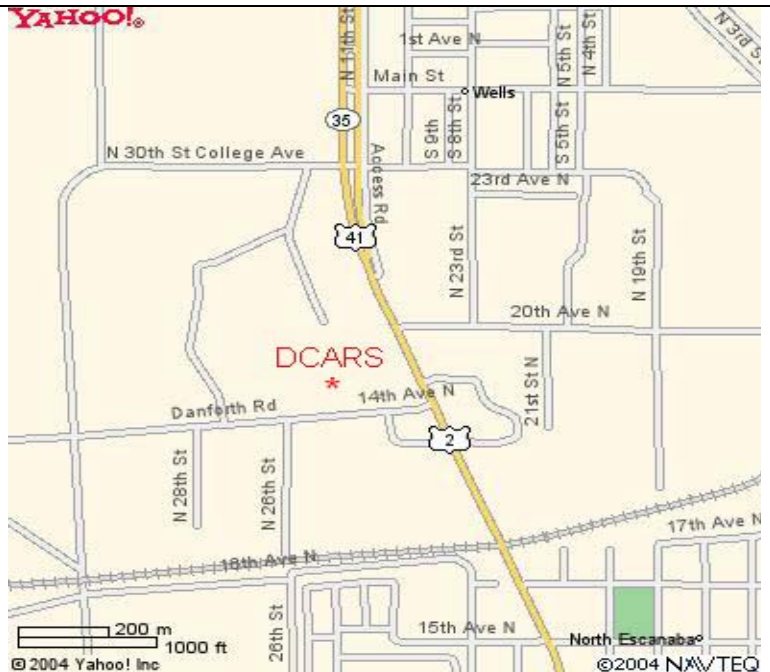
Place Label Here

**The Delta County Amateur Radio Society,** will meet on the third Monday of each month. Our meeting starts promptly at 7 P.M., at Bay-De-Noc Community College, Room #963. Located in the glassed in area at the Joseph Heirman University Center. You can park in the South Lot off Danforth Road. Just watch for antennas on vehicles.

**Annual Membership dues have been reduced to \$15 per year.**

**Associate Memberships are available to those living outside Delta County for \$10 per year.**

Dues are January 1<sup>st</sup> – December 31<sup>st</sup> annually....Pro-rates during the year are not accepted unless you also pay in advance for the next years dues. You may also contribute to different on-going projects, the 147,150 repeater maintenance fund, or tower fund. (We are looking to increase the height of the 147.150 repeater.



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