

Air Scoop monthly

Newsletter of The Delta County Amateur Radio Society

November 2005

Minutes of November 21st 2005

Welcome to our Meeting - D.C.A.R.S. Inc., at - Bay De Noc Community College.

Our meeting opened promptly at 7:00 PM., With President, Dave Palmgren – N8DP.

Dave welcomed all members and non-members to our meeting. Officers present were Dave Palmgren N8DP, Les Elder WA8LE, secretary / newsletter editor, Treasurer – Marshall Seawright N8VBA.

Absent, Vice President – Mark Blau ND8X.

Welcome guest – James Glass – AB9IF Baltimore, Md. (Jim is Les Elder's son-in-law) who spent the "Thanksgiving week with Les and his family".

Self-Introductions

Dave Palmgren – N8DP
Les Elder – WA8LE
Marshall Seawright – N8VBA
Tony Marietta – KC8NUR
Lowell Seeley – KA8RPB
Rich Thompson – N8OYR
John Anderson – WD8RTH
Howard St. John – W8HSJ
Don Brackenbury – K8GMW
Hank Olsen – W8ZMN
Jerry Shapy – NA8U

Secretaries Report

It was moved, and approved to wave the Secretaries report. It will be included in all monthly newsletters.

Treasurers Report

Marshall N8VBA gave the financial condition of the club. With no additional bills submitted, it was moved and seconded on the Balances given at our

club meeting. Motion by Rich and 2nd by John for approval.

(Submitted by Marshall Seawright N8VBA – Treasurer

OLD BUSINESS - UPDATE

Club Repeater – 147.150

Dave Palmgren reported that he has changed and added the club 147.150 frequency to his Motorola repeater system for use for the winter of 2005, 2006. The frequency was added, along with his new antenna, with hard line at the 65-foot level for temporary use. The repeater was set at 110 watts output. Spurious signals were not heard after many hours of testing and the conclusion is that the location is the prime concern for looking for good sight for the club repeater in the summer of 2006.

Dave will in the spring start adding to this tower His complete antenna system along with also Changing this repeater to another tower along side this one. The tower will also be over 100 feet and will hold "Daves" personal repeater system. More on this later on. We would like to thank Dave for the use of his tower for the .15 repeater on a temporary basis.

Update – "Upper Peninsula Hamfest – Computer expo" at Bay College.

John Anderson WD8RTH gave an update on the hamfest for August 7th 2006. John will be having meetings weekly. Additional information is forthcoming at our monthly meetings.

Club web-site, by Joe Thompson.
Recognition was given to Joe Thompson for the updating and nice work he is doing on the club internet website. Anyone that would like

to add information to the newsletter is asked to send an email to Joe with that information.

All Hams and wife's and family are urged to attend the Great Lakes Grand Buffet for our "Christmas" party and club meeting.

December 19th 2005. Eat at 6pm, with short meeting at 7 PM. Election of officers will be held and you are urged to participate and hold office of your choice.

50/50 won by Marshall Seawright – N8VBA

Motion to adjourn was made by – Jerry Shapy, 2nd by Howard St.John. (Motion passed)

End of club meeting 7:30 PM
Secretary – wa8le – Les Elder

Reminder: Sunday night 2 meter net, 147.150

Reminder: Monday nights at Bay college for Project night starting at 6:30 PM till whenever it gets over. Marshall Seawright is in Charge.

Addition notes: Gary Bougious from Marquette, passed away and his family has lots of older ham equipment for sale. Anyone interested is to call Bill Harris at 228-3275. Locals can call John Anderson also for information

Our DCARS STAFF

Dave Palmgren N8DP – President
Mark Blau ND8X – Vice President
Marshall Seawright N8BVA – Treasurer
Rich Thompson N8OYR – Correspondence
Les Elder WA8LE – Secretary
Les Elder WA8LE – Newsletter and Emailing
Tony Marrietta KC8NUR – Club Librarian
John Anderson WD8RTH – Chairman "Upper Peninsula Ham-fest – 2006"

Air Scoop Monthly

Air-Scoop Monthly is the official newsletter of:

"The Delta County Amateur Radio Society"
serving its members and the Delta County community.

Original articles, art and photos are welcome. Copy-righted material cannot be printed without the permission from the appropriate legal authority.

Please include such disclaimers in all materials submitted to the Newsletter Editor at WA8LE @ U.P. Logon.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 Ham-fest for Escanaba became a reality in 1965.

On September 1st 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 ADDRESS ALL MAIL CORRESPONDANCE TO:

DCARS
RICHARD THOMPSON
9560 CHAISON N. ROAD,
GLADSTONE, MI 49837.

INDIVIDUAL EMAIL CAN BE SENT TO OUR CLUB OFFICERS OR MEMBERS.

PLEASE NOTIFY ONE OF OUR CLUB OFFICERS OR THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR OF ANY MAIL OR E-MAIL ADDRESS CHANGES.
THANK YOU.



Upper Peninsula News – Marquette Michigan

Reminder, Marquette's Swap and Shop will be held the first Saturday in February 2006. There is a time change for starting so keep tuned for more information for this event. There are still tables available. Will post all the information in the next newsletter for the changes.....

U.P. News from George Thurner, Houghton Michigan.

We have a defective antenna at CMX. Our dual-bander (2m/70cm) failed in a recent windstorm. It is listing at about a 60 degree angle, so I suspect that the feed line snapped off at the base of that antenna. As a temporary fix, I've swung the packet radio system over to the new UHF antenna at about the 90 foot level on the Alltel tower. That was done on Friday afternoon about 1510 EST.

It is working again, and we have reestablished our packet radio link to the south on 446.3 MHz. That'll take us to Iron River, Iron Mountain, and points south.

For those of you who are active in packet give it a try.

C CMX (On 145.090 MHz)
C #CMXS
C MIIRN

and follow it from there. You can pull a node list by simply typing the letter "N" (without the quotes.)

Sent: Sunday, November 27, 2005 12:51 PM
Subject: Antenna Update #2

You have heard of the problem with the dual-band antenna at CMX (Osceola) > [Calumet], well, as of Sunday morning, Nov. 27, 2005 I made another > change.

>

We had lost our 145.010 route to the west, as a result of the dual-band > antenna failure, and that was only discovered a day later. (Nov. 26).....

I went out there again today (Sunday, Nov. 27) this time, disconnected > the duplexer feeding the antennas and used a 2M beam on the route facing > west (Winona), putting that link back in service as of about 1100 AM > Sunday. We still have adequate antennae for both UHF and VHF at the site for our Yaesu FT7800 (voice rig) and I tested that also. I test all routes: CMXLAN, CMXBBS, MIWIN, MICMX this morning and found > them all to be working. These changes are temporary, until we can get the dual-band antenna system > repaired, It is leaning over, from structural damage (wind) of the last storm we had.

> 73,

Geo., W8FWG, w8fwg@arri.net

VE Testing for Amateur Radio Licensing at Bay College, Escanaba, MI 49829

TESTING FOR CW, TECH, TECH/W GENERAL, EXTRA will be held on Saturday 9:00 A.M. in the Electronics Laboratory, West of the Glassed in building off Danforth Road. Large parking lot available just for you. Any questions, please contact Les 906-789-1543, if not home leave a message and I will return your call.

01/14/06 Escanaba: 9:00am arrival time with testing beginning at 9:30am, at Bay De Noc Community College. Contact Les, WA8LE at 906 789-1543 or wa8le@uplogon.com for info.

Please arrive (9:00 AM) one-half hour early for test sessions to give time to process applications. Testing applicants should bring the following items with them: Two pieces of I.D. one being a photo I.D., Original license and one clear copy of their license if applicable, Completed form 605 (one will be provided if you don't have one), pencils, calculator and the test fee of \$14.00. Please have the correct fee as examiners do not carry change.

**Test FEE of \$14.00 will increase for 2006,
The ARRL will advise by next month what
the new test fee's will be.**

Exciting DX contact - SSB

By – Les Wa8le,

While tuning the bands on November 11, 2005, around 12:30 PM, I happened to listen on 15 meters and heard a "cq-dx call". Listening close for awhile, the signal increased, turned my beam around, and low and behold I heard V51GB, Gerd in "the town of Tsumb". I checked my large "world wall map" and found that he was located near the capital of Namibia.

This location is just North-West of South Africa the southern most area of Africa. Returning his CQ, I was really surprised that he came back to me in the pileups, way up here in "Riverland" in the Upper Michigan. He was running 100 watts, with an ft1000MP and an antenna array of stacked 4 over 4, 15 meter beams. The height of his antenna system was a total of 90 feet above ground and beaming towards North American.....

To my belief, I couldn't imagine being heard with my TA-33 beam and just 100 watts and pushing a solid 59 plus to him. But putting the averages together with his fine setup, I realized this contact was really possible with the low power both of us were running. Band conditions were not the best but they were workable this day.

Total Mileage between us was about 8,900 miles. (one of my longest QSO's) P.S. I'm waiting for his QSL to arrive.....

My Kenwood 450 and 11 years old, still does the trick.....

73, wa8le, Les

For those of you that work DX, if you have "one of those" rare contacts you would like us to hear about, please let me know and I will add this to our newsletter. wa8le, Les, newsletter editor.

WORLD GRID SQUARES

A very easy way to locate ham operators you are working is to ask them for there "Grid Square Location". I found that if you ask those rare and all grid square locations, you pinpoint locations right away if you have a world or grid square map of the U.S.A.

Remember while working DX or anyone, that you just think you might know where they are located, ask them for a grid square location. Look it up on the Internet grid square map and print the location if you wish. Do you know what your Grid Square is? The ARRL has world or USA grid square maps for sale at a nominal fee. You can also download them off the internet by using "Google" to locate grid square maps.

By Les Elder, wa8le

POOR BAND CONDITIONS



This years ham club Christmas Dance was not as enjoyable as last year, due to poor band conditions.

submitted by N8DP - Dave

The Amateur Radio Crossword Puzzler

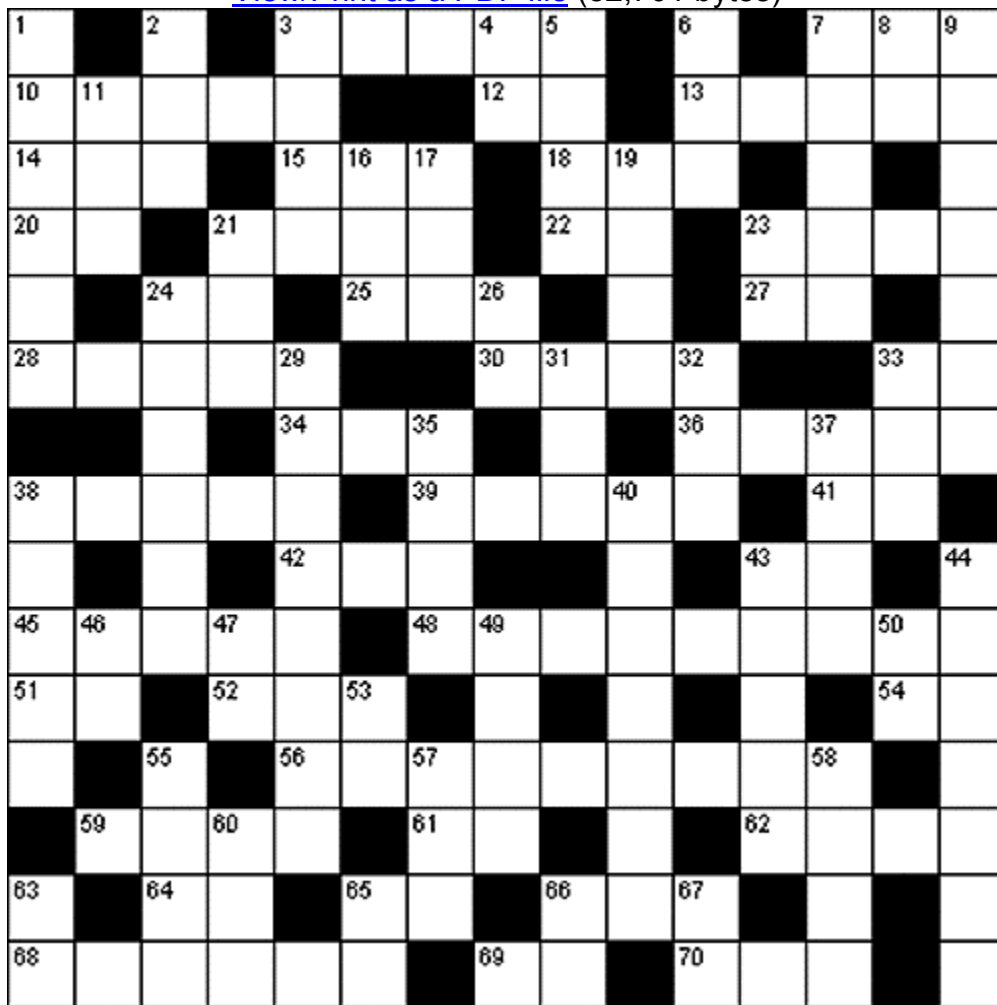
*By H. Ward Silver, N0AX
December 13, 2005*

"A Ham's Pie in the Sky"

It's the dead of winter - what better time for antenna work? You know what they say about the final result working so much better if the

work is done in snow or rain! So get out there and haul up those skyhooks, dig those radials, and change those rotators! And when you're all done and frozen, looking for something to do while your feet thaw out, here's a handy crossword puzzle about antennas.

[View/Print as a PDF file](#) (82,701 bytes)



Across

- 3. Perpendicular to an axis of an antenna
- 7. Makes a signal louder
- 10. Where antennas are tested
- 12. Instead of hi, we now want this kind of fi
- 13. Unbalanced impedance match
- 14. Venerable antique
- 15. The ARRL's on-line technical reference (abbr.)
- 18. Flex under one's own weight
- 20. Safety lab (abbr.)
- 21. Forms an important ratio with front
- 22. Swiss prefix
- 23. Tube that holds up an antenna
- 24. Amateur satellite prefix
- 25. Bolt with a ring for a head

- 27. British abbreviation for high voltage
- 28. Triangular antenna
- 30. To apply energy
- 33. Opposite of 63 Down
- 34. Single layer of several
- 36. Keeps currents even
- 38. Amount of difference in bearing
- 39. Prize given for merit
- 41. Powered up
- 42. Slang for radio
- 43. The Show-Me State (abbr.)
- 45. Start again or go back to the beginning
- 48. Radiates the same everywhere
- 51. Oldest mode for voice
- 52. Terminal that attaches to a screw
- 54. Number (abbr.)

- 56. Energy given off by an antenna
- 59. Antennas have mains and sides
- 61. Towards the sky
- 62. Milli-micro (prefix)
- 64. Smallest of the 48 contiguous states (abbr.)
- 65. Diameter measured outside a tube (abbr.)
- 66. Radiated power taking into account line losses and antenna gain (abbr.)
- 68. A wire antenna of indeterminate length
- 69. The Granite State (abbr.)
- 70. Scares birds off antennas...maybe

Down

- 1. An electrical imaging plane
- 2. Where a Zepp antenna is fed
- 3. Balanced match dubbed "hairpin"
- 4. Sigh of disappointment
- 5. Bowl-shaped antenna
- 6. Round insulator
- 7. Satellite organization
- 8. 25.4 of these in an inch (abbr.)
- 9. Graph showing antenna radiation by direction
- 11. Opposite of none
- 16. Builds up on antennas in winter time
- 17. Waves that bounce off the ionosphere
- 19. Can perform a task if willing
- 21. Slang for automaton
- 23. A giga-pico-henry (abbr.)

- 24. Brings together so that they fit
- 26. Type of transistor circuit with no voltage gain, but lots of current gain (abbr.)
- 29. A measure of an antenna's ability to capture signal power
- 31. Guess at an arrival time (abbr.)
- 32. Measure of gain with respect to a dipole (abbr.)
- 33. What makes the ionosphere
- 35. Type of beam antenna
- 37. Circular element
- 38. Antenna with multiple elements
- 40. What turns antennas
- 43. Inventor of a famous rectangle
- 44. Bah, humbug!
- 46. Electromagnetic (abbr.)
- 47. Complement to "az"
- 49. Bounce of a signal
- 50. Not out
- 53. Measure of wire thickness (abbr.)
- 55. Antenna that looks like a megaphone
- 57. Antenna that doesn't work well
- 58. What everything looks like when all you've got is a hammer
- 60. Placed during auctions
- 63. Indicates a smaller version of something
- 65. Affectionate term for husband (abbr.)
- 66. The two types of fields in a radio wave
- 67. Where the boxes are (abbr.)

REVISED Dec 10, 2005 07:27 ET

Gerritsen Convicted on All Counts in Radio Jamming Case

NEWINGTON, CT, Dec 9, 2005--A US District Court jury has found Jack Gerritsen of Bell, California, guilty on six counts that included transmitting without a license and willful and malicious interference with radio transmissions. Gerritsen, 69, who briefly held the amateur call sign KG6IRO, will face sentencing March 6, according to the office of Debra W. Yang, US Attorney for the Central District of California. He could receive up to 15 years in federal prison.

"The Federal Communication Commission investigated illegal radio transmissions linked to Gerritsen for four years," said a statement from Yang's office after the verdict. "According to court documents filed in this case, the FCC investigation revealed that Gerritsen transmitted his prerecorded messages, as well as real-time harassment and profanity, for hours at a time, often making it impossible for licensed radio operators to use the public frequencies." A federal grand jury indicted Gerritsen last spring.

Gerritsen had earlier turned down the offer of a public defender and served as his own attorney in the federal court trial. The government's case, presented by Assistant US Attorney Lamar Baker, went to the jury December 8, and the jury deliberated for less than an hour before returning its verdict today. US District Court Judge R. Gary Klausner revoked Gerritsen's bail, and the defendant was taken into custody following the verdict.

Gerritsen was found guilty of interfering with a Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) communication last March and interfering with American Red Cross communications last January--both misdemeanors--and of interfering with US Coast Guard communications in October 2004, a felony.

Those familiar with the court proceedings, which got under way December 6, said Gerritsen tended to focus on freedom of speech issues and sometimes confused those giving testimony. Among those testifying at length on behalf of the government was FCC Senior Agent Steven Pierce, who discussed his use of mobile direction-finding equipment and techniques used in tracking the source of the illegal and interfering transmissions.

Just days before the trial began, the FCC affirmed a total of \$42,000 in additional fines it had levied on Gerritsen, releasing two \$21,000 *Forfeiture Orders (NOFs)*. In affirming the fines, the FCC rebuffed every argument Gerritsen had offered in responding to each *Notice of Apparent Liability (NAL)*, including his insistent "freedom of speech" claim.

"His unlicensed operation on amateur frequencies is not protected by the US Constitution as it is well established that the right to free speech does not include the right to use radio facilities without a license," the FCC said in a footnote in one of the *NOFs*. The federal court jury in California apparently agreed.

In late November, Klausner denied Gerritsen's motion to dismiss the three counts of transmitting without a license, turning away Gerritsen's argument that the FCC could not set aside his Amateur Radio license without a hearing. Klausner declared that the effect of the FCC's 2001 set aside of KG6IRO "was to treat the application as if it had never been granted." Since Gerritsen never held an Amateur Radio license, he never had the right to a hearing, the judge reasoned.

One of the recent \$21,000 *NOFs* involved alleged willful and repeated malicious interference with Amateur Radio communications. The second focused on allegations of willful and repeated interference with the radio communications of a US Coast Guard Auxiliary officer attempting to use Amateur Radio frequencies to assist a sailboat in distress. Last March, the FCC upheld a \$10,000 fine against Gerritsen for interfering with Amateur Radio communications. The government has yet to collect.

FBI agents, accompanied by FCC staff, arrested Gerritsen without incident last May and seized his radio equipment. Released on \$250,000 bond while awaiting trial, Gerritsen remained in home detention, barred from possessing any radio equipment.

Gerritsen's history of radio-related legal problems go back to 2000 when he was convicted for intercepting, obstructing and/or interfering with California Highway Patrol radio communications. In November 2001, the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau issued, then quickly rescinded, Gerritsen's Technician license, KG6IRO, because of his earlier conviction. While transmitting on various Los Angeles-area repeaters, Gerritsen continued to identify as KG6IRO, however.

Radio amateurs on the West Coast complained for months about the slow pace of enforcement action in the Gerritsen case. Los Angeles-area repeater owners had taken to shutting down their machines to avoid the nearly constant barrage of malicious interference and lengthy political tirades attributed to Gerritsen.

From the ARRL – Newline on the Internet at: www.arrl.org

Presidents Message – N8DP

In the March issue of the Air Scoop Monthly I had laid out some goals for the club,

1. Start and complete Ham Radio Classes for entry class amateurs.

The ARRL Technician Class Video Course was purchased and was used during our classes last March

2. Have a VE team organized for Delta County to administer testing after classes are completed.

A VE team has been assembled and three sessions were held last year and four are scheduled for 2006

3. Organize Sunday get-togethers on 147.15 repeater at 7 pm.

A Sunday evening two meter net has been started again and has been meeting at 8

4. Start a weekly or bi-weekly Project Night for committee meetings to keep up to date on local news and up-coming projects. (Also work on Electronic Projects) soldering etc.

Project night meetings are held on Mondays beginning at 6:30 Room 402E

5. Our main project goal is to gain more membership in DCARS and promote more involvement in training new amateur radio operators for Delta County.

An on-going effort

6. Mass mail – out to all area surrounding communities regarding DCARS.

Done

7. Additions to our Monthly Newsletter.

Ham Profiles, Puzzles and Photos of club events are some of the new additions.

8. Add monthly U.S. mail outs of our newsletter in addition to all E-mail accounts.

The newsletter is available by mail for an additional fee.

Progress has been made this year and I hope to see continued progress for 2006, We need to do a better job at promoting the Tech classes and improve the success rate of the students, The UP Ham-fest needs to be a priority, I'd like to see more programs at the meetings and finally I'd like to see a growth in membership in the club.

73's Dave - N8DP

2006

Amateur Radio Test Date Reminder

01/14/06 Escanaba: 9:00am arrival time with testing beginning at 9:30am, at Bay De Noc Community College. Contact Les, WA8LE at 906 789-1543 or wa8le@uplogon.com for info.

01/21/06 Houghton: 8:30am eastern time, Room G04 (In the basement) of Wadsworth Residence Hall at M-T-U (Michigan Technological University) Parking available (free) across Hwy U.S. 41 from this building, contact George Thurner W8FWG at 906 337-2542 or e-mail w8fwg@arrl.net

**D.C.A.R.S.
9560 Chaison – N. Road
Gladstone, Mi.
49837**

Stamp

Mail Label

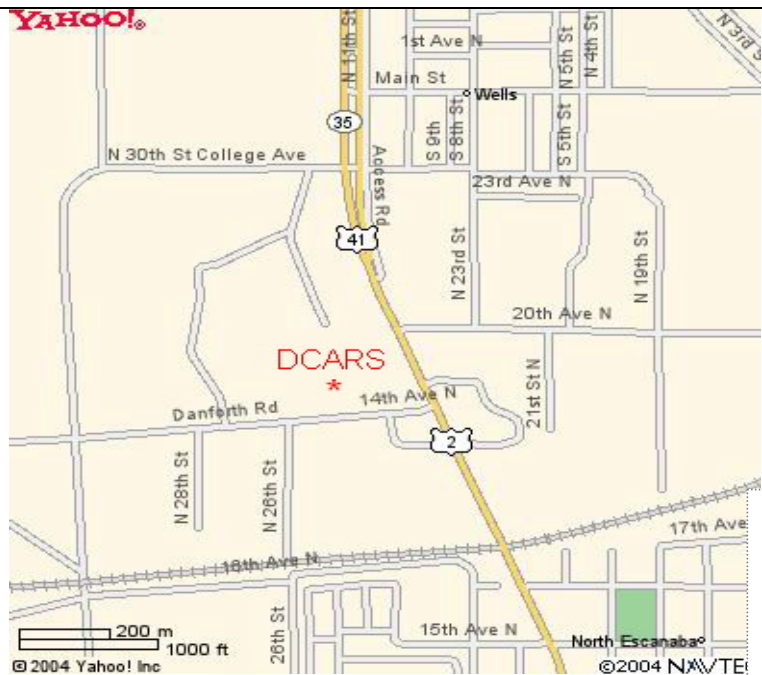
The Delta County Amateur Radio Society, will meet on the third Monday of each month. Our meeting starts promptly at 7 P.M., at Bay-De-Noc Community College, Room #963.

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 1st – December 31st 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 for a new tower sight location for our 147.150 repeater. Your contribution will be greatly appreciated.



From US – 2 & 41 Turn West on to Danforth Road, "Traffic Light" Travel one block and turn into parking lot next to glassed in area - Lot D

