

Air Scoop monthly

Delta County Amateur Radio Society Inc.

9560 CHAISON – N. ROAD

SEPT - Email GLADSTONE, Michigan 49837

2004

Delta County 2-meter Repeater – 147.150 + K8ZAS – Tone 107.2

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. (Harriman Building) South Side.

AUG 16th 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@uplogon.com. All letters, comments, stories, will be discussed before publication. Your help in making a great Newsletter will be greatly appreciated by all.

JEREMY OUR PRESIDENT ARRANGED AND MADE POSSIBLE A LISTING THAT ANYONE CAN ACCESS AT - WWW.YAHOOGROUPS.COM . ANYONE OR MEMBERS CAN GO TO WWW.YAHOOGROUPS.COM AND SIGN UP FOR A MEMBERSHIP. SEND AN EMAIL TO dcars-subscribe@yahoogroups.com and request to join. STORAGE SPACE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICS AND MSSGS TO OTHERS AND MASS MAILINGS FOR MESSAGES OR NEWS CAN ALSO SENT OUT WITH THIS FREE SERVICE PROVIDED BY YAHOOGROUPS. **“EVERYTHING IS FREE”**

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.yahoogroups.com or email your request to kg8sq@uplogon.com or check with any of our club members.

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.

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 WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS, PLEASE NOTIFY OUR CLUB PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, TREASURER OR SECRETARY AND LET US KNOW OF ANY EMAIL CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS THANKYOU

DCARS – NEXT – MONTHLY MEETING – (3RD MONDAY OF THE MONTH) – September 19th 2004 – BAY COLLEGE DANFORTH ROAD, GROUND FLOOR, ROOM 963, HERIMAN BUILDING, SOUTH SIDE. MEETING STARTS AT 7 PM. PLEASE JOIN US.

DELTA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY INC.

AUGUST MEETING REPORT

Secretaries Report – August 2004.

Minutes: Meeting of August 2004

Meeting Cancelled due to everyone being on vacation and out of town.

No Correspondence Received for August 2004

September Meeting Agenda

1. Since Jeremy is no longer President of DCARS, at his request, Tony the Vice-President will take over and preside at our meetings until an election can be held for a new President. Elections of officers will be in October with a new president taking over December at our Christmas Annual Party. (Election will be Nov Meeting)
2. Report of Repeater committee, and usual reports.

Extra News for the Newsletter

APARS – Automatic Position Reporting (Radio) System

OVER VIEW OF APRS - from the beginning

APRS – Introduction - The DOS version of APRS (Automatic Position Reporting System) was created by [Bob Bruninga](#). Later on, versions for other operating systems came along written by [Mark Sproul](#), [Keith Sproul](#), [Brent Hildebrand](#), and [Steve Dimse](#) to facilitate:

Tracking of weather events
Tracking Automobiles, Airplanes, Balloons, and Satellites,
Relaying of real time data such as races, emergency service, public events, RDF
Locating of Problematic Transmitters
Observing HF Band Conditions. This page favors the Windows APRS version and is meant to serve as a semi-technical overview of WinAPRS.

Until now, most packet applications have been text based. These applications have been accessed by typing, and displayed information in a textual manner. They also required the user to have knowledge of the local network, and actually connect to a server or bbs to get information.

APRS is different. With this system, users can operate entirely hands off, and the information is presented in an easy to understand format, over-layered onto maps of local areas. Maps on APRS do not have to represent geographic areas. Maps can be created that define charts and tables - even chessboards. Any user in the network can take

control of an object and update it's position. Imagine a chart listing people in a shelter, supplies, or resources. Any of these resources can be moved graphically to any other location by any station in the net. The local EOC supply truck doesn't have a GPS? No problem, just create one on the map, and manually move it as you talk to him on the radio. His position will be shown on every APRS screen in the area in a matter of seconds.

APRS has all the symbols for weather conditions, and each weather condition can be placed on the map for all to see. Information is transmitted instantly to all other APRS stations. In the event that a station does not hear this information, it will be transmitted 3 times in the first 60 seconds, 3 times in the next 10 minutes, and 3 more times the next hour. New stations coming online can query other stations for known information, such as the locations of shelters, and hospitals.

Another way that differentiates APRS from other packet programs is its ability to pick information off the air passively. A very few stations can get information out to several hundred stations with only one or two transmissions. Other packet messaging systems require that each station receives it's own unique copy of any given message. This could lead to 100's of transmissions to distribute the same information aprs could accomplish in one single transmission!

The APRS network infrastructure is generic by nature... all stations are on the same frequency, all relay points are named identically. This universal generic network allows operators unfamiliar with the "lay of the land" to hit the ground running. The maps available vary in detail from the entire world right down to the tables at a ham fest. In the past several years, specialized hardware has been created just for APRS. There are special APRS microphones which transmit your position at the end of each transmission like a "roger beep", specialized TNCs just for transmitting weather, and most importantly, APRS is so popular that it has reduced the cost of hardware for the average user. Whereas a "one size fits all" TNC used to cost \$120 to \$150, you can now buy a transmit only TNC for \$25!

Many hams are now using APRs throughout the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Several different computer plugins are available and if you need some help after obtaining any Ui-view programming, ask one our DCARS members for help. Several Hams are running APRS all over the Upper Peninsula. Weather stations have increased for your viewing pleasure along with mapping, mileage factors from point to point. Map printing from almost any parameter is available for your printer, (close-ups or far away shots).

Recently I took a picture of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan showing all the repeaters that are widely used by most hams while driving back and forth or which are used for chatting and emergencies, (Races) etc.

Lat/Lon coordinates can be expressed in a few different ways. The two ways most commonly used are Degrees, Minutes and Seconds (DMS) and Decimal Degrees. The QRZ update window accepts either.

In geographic coordinates, longitudes runs from 0 to 180 degrees in either an East or West direction and latitudes run from 0 to 90 degrees in either a North or South direction. 90 Degrees North is the North Pole. 90 degrees South is the South Pole, etc. On GPS units, north latitudes are represented as positive numbers while south latitudes are prefixed with a minus sign.

Similarly, east longitudes are positive and west is negative.

Degrees of longitude at the equator are spaced approximately 60 miles apart, narrowing towards the poles.

Similarly, degrees of latitude are also some distance apart.

To get more precision, degrees of both latitude and longitude may be divided into smaller increments known as minutes and seconds.

Like a clock, there are 60 minutes to one degree and there are 60 seconds to one minute. This gives a precision of about 1/60 of one mile, which, is close enough for DX work. Various online, digital, and GPS maps list degrees by their decimal fraction such as 34.5 degrees. Put another way, 34.5 degrees is equal to 34 degrees, 30 minutes, 0 seconds.

Incidentally, minutes are abbreviated with a tick (') and seconds with two ticks ("). So, the above could have been written as 34° 30' 0" do the math for you.

Degrees, Minutes and Seconds vs. Decimal Degrees

In the data entry form, there are three boxes, one for Degrees, one for Minutes and one for Seconds. If you have your position in DMS, then just input it accordingly. If the data you have is in decimal degrees, then input this number (including the decimal point and all the digits that follow) into the degrees box and make sure that both the minutes and seconds boxes are left blank. QRZ will compute the values when you click on Update. Remember that if the digital number is negative, set the longitude to West, or the latitude to South.

I've already given you enough of the variables to solve the math equation to convert any decimal degree position into its DMS value. Fortunately, QRZ will save you the trouble by going to its web sight for information www.qrz.com

Note: September is renewal month for membership. Please fill in the enclosed form, cut out and send with a check or money order to Rich Thompson, Treasurer at the address listed above.....Dues for the upcoming year has been reduced from \$20.00 per membership to \$15.00 or \$20.00 for family membership. Please pay accordingly. Please fill in the form listed below.....

DCARS – NEWSLETTER

Please tell your ham radio friends about DCARS’s newsletter. We will strive to send copies to all who ask for a copy of our newsletter. Please feel free to forward a copy to anyone interested in our great hobby. It is not our purpose to solicit funds for our hobby. There is merely a newsletter on what is going on with new technology and what we will strive to accomplish in the coming year. It is with the great thought that we all keep in mind and that is – have fun and see you on the radio. (While erecting an antenna, ask for help)

We look forward to you sending in articles, events, and pictures of what you do with ham radio and how it

affects your life. Please send tower, antenna, raising pics or anything of interest to us all. Please send Pictures in JPG or GIF format and I will take care of reformatting for this newsletter. If you go on any trips in which you use your HF or VHF radios, please let us know. IF you also go overseas or on expeditions, please give us the pictures and we will see that they are added for all to see in our newsletter.

Signed - Editor
DCARS INC.

Delta County Amateur Radio Society Inc. Membership Information

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE - MICHIGAN _____ ZIP CODE _____

HAM CALL _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

YEARLY DUES PAID \$15.00 MEMBER AND FAMILY \$20.00 YEARLY DUES PAID (\$10.00 MEMBER ASSOCIATE NON-VOTING),,TO BECOME AN ASSOCIATE, YOU MUST LIVE OUTSIDE OF DELTA COUNTY

MEMBERSHIP IN ARRL – CIRCLE YES OR NO. _____ FILL THIS OUT AND SEND WITH CHECK OR M.O. OR CASH, EXCEPTED AT MEETINGS. ANY ADDITIONAL MONEY RECEIVED, PLEASE SPECIFY WHERE YOU WOULD LIKE THE ADDTIONAL AMOUNT APPLIED TO:

- A. ANNUAL DUES – GENERAL FUND
- B. REPEATER FUND
- C. TOWER FUND
- D. GIFT TO CLUB

Dues will be from Oct 1st 2004 til Sept 30th 2005 inclusive.

**Make checks payable to ---- DCARS or
Delta County Amateur Radio Society Inc.**

**C/o Richard Thompson, Treasurer
9560 CHAISON N.ROAD
GLADSTONE, MI 49837**

ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL RICH AT 906-428-2528

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