



Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club  
 Lansing Civil Defense Repeater Association  
 P O BOX 27321  
 LANSING MI 48909

# The Scope

Feb 2004



## ARRL to Propose New Entry-Level License, Code-Free HF Access (ARRL Amateur Radio News)

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CMARC/LCDRA Board Mem- bers	2
<b>Zeigenbein Awards An- nouncement</b>	2
<b>Presidents' Page</b>	3
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	4
<b>For Sale</b>	4
<b>Local Nets</b>	4
<b>Proposed Bands</b>	5
<b>Problem Solved</b>	5
<b>My Story</b>	7
<b>CMARC Board Minutes</b>	7
<b>2004 Poorman's Hamfest</b>	6
<b>CMARC Member Info Sheet</b>	8
Birthdays/Anniversaries	9
ARRL cont'd	10
CMARC Meeting Minutes	11

NEWINGTON, CT, Jan 19, 2004--  
 The ARRL will ask the FCC to create a new entry-level Amateur Radio license that would include HF phone privileges without requiring a Morse code test. The League also will propose consolidating all current licensees into three classes, retaining the Element 1 Morse requirement--now 5 WPM--only for the highest class.

The ARRL Board of Directors overwhelmingly approved the plan January 16 during its Annual Meeting in Windsor, Connecticut. The proposals--developed by the ARRL Executive Committee following a Board instruction last July--are in response to changes made in Article 25 of the International Radio Regulations at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03).

They would continue a process of streamlining the amateur licensing structure that the FCC began more than five years ago but left unfinished in the Amateur Service license restructuring Report and Order (WT 98-143) that went into effect April 15, 2000.

"Change in the Amateur Radio Service in the US, especially license requirements and even more so when Morse is involved, has always been emotional," said ARRL First Vice President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, in presenting the Executive Committee's recommendations. "In fact, without a doubt, Morse is Amateur Radio's 'religious debate.'" The plan adopted

by the Board departs only slightly from the Executive Committee's recommendations.

### The "New" Novice

The entry-level license class--being called "Novice" for now--would require a 25-question written exam. It would offer limited HF CW/data and phone/image privileges on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters as well as VHF and UHF privileges on 6 and 2 meters and on 222-225 and 430-450 MHz. Power output would be restricted to 100 W on 80, 40, and 15 meters and to 50 W on 10 meters and up, thus avoiding the need for the more complex RF safety questions in the Novice question pool.

"The Board sought to achieve balance in giving new Novice licensees the opportunity to sample a wider range of Amateur Radio activity than is available to current Technicians while retaining a motivation to upgrade," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. "It was also seen as important to limit the scope of privileges so the exam would not have to include material that is inappropriate at the entry level."

As an introduction to Amateur Radio, the Novice license served successfully for most of its 50-year history. The FCC has not issued new Novice licenses since the 2000 license restructuring, however. Under the ARRL plan, current Novice licensees --now the smallest and least active group of radio amateurs-- would be grandfathered to the new entry-level class (cont'd on page 10)

## CMARC BOARD MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION

Dennis "Rocky" Beckner	WD8SBO		wd8sbo@att.net	President
John Hosford	KC8QZB	(517) 626-6594	jhosford@netzero.net	Vice President
Dick McGuire	KI8C	(517) 782-1430	dickki8c@juno.com	Secretary
Randy Stortz	K8VY	(517) 393-0634	rstortz386@msn.com	Treasurer
Jane Law	KC8FSK	(517) 622-2723	janelaw@sbcglobal.net	Director
Gregg Mulder	WB8LZG	(517) 646-6257		Director
Kevin Mulder	KC8QZE	(517) 646-6257		Under 22 Director
John Ingraham	NG8L	(517) 484-8027	ng8l@arrl.net	Membership Chair
Donald Defeyter	KC8CY			Field Checker
Ken Kruger	W8AAX			Field Checker

## LCDRA BOARD MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION

Dan Harger	W8BCI	(517) 882-8784	w8bci@juno.com
"Bruce" Rainey	KC8ODP	(517) 627-9118	kc8odp@arrl.net
Don Rickerd	W8BQD	(517) 339-8496	
Dennis Boone	KB8ZQZ	(517) 337-0857	drb@msu.edu
Troy Creed	W8TCC	(517) 323-6358	w8tcc@arrl.net
Hal Bell	W8LAY	(517) 484-0962	
Scott Newfer	W8SRN	(517) 373-0786	



## Ziegenbein Awards

Nominations are being accepted from now until April 9, 2004, for this year's Award. If you know of someone who works hard in our Club and strives to make Amateur Radio better for fellow Hams, take time to tell us about it. Be direct and as complete as possible in your nominations and tell us why your nominee should be considered for CMARC's highest award.

Following the nomination period, recipients of the last three Ziegenbein Awards meet to determine this year's winner. In the event of a past recipient being a Silent Key, the recipient from the previous year is held over to cover for them. Pam Denomme (KB8PSF) will represent last year's recipient, Mark Humphreys (N8DEF) who became a Silent Key last year. The Award is then presented at our annual Ladies' Night Dinner.

Sounds like fun, right? It's a ton of fun, so get in on the action and nominate your choice today. As always, nominees must be full CMARC members and please remember that this award is given to the person who has done the most to promote Amateur Radio and CMARC in the last calendar year. All nominations must be individually sealed and no copies will be accepted. Unfortunately, several are nominated, but only one can win. Best of luck to all, es 73!

Please send your nominations to:

J. Ervin Bates (W8ERV)  
Ziegenbein Nominations  
1470 Harper Rd., #38  
Mason, Michigan 48854

## Presidents' Corner

### **Current CMARC President**

We have had our first meeting of the New Year with the new Officers. I have been asked, "why do we want to have HamFair and what does CMARC stand for? What are our goals and plans for the future?" These are very good questions and it looks like very few people in the Club have any idea.

Well, having some time to think and read the by-laws, it becomes clear as to what our purpose is. However, what the Club goals are and why do we wish to have a HamFair is very unclear. If it is just to raise money with no purpose in mind, then we can find easier ways to raise monies. If it for social reasons, we can have dinners, picnics, cook outs and parties for every occasion.

These are of real concern to us if the Amateur Community is to grow and flourish. We need to define our goals and move on them. We need to help one another with an out-reached hand. We need to step forward and be counted, not 'just let Joe do it.'

Many in the club are older Hams, well, many of us had Elmers and a helping hand while we came up within the ranks of Ham Radio. Now is the time for us to step up and say 'can I help you?' The younger people licenced and unlicenced need some of our experience and know how. They also have much to offer the Ham community. Many of the younger people have grown up with computers within this new digital world, and they have experience that many of the older Hams don't understand.

Well, it looks as if we complement each other. Perhaps we can define our goals and directions (as the Special Service Club of Central Michigan), where we are headed and what we wish to do now and in the future. In short, what do we wish to leave for the future generations of Ham Operators in our area and beyond? Think about this and let us hear from you at the next meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup>.

The questionnaires I passed out at the last meeting have been read and it becomes clear that the majority of you want to have programs about operating modes and equipment. We shall try and meet these requirements as well as bring in speakers that can inform us as to the role of Amateur Radio today and in the future. I shall try and have someone from the FCC and Homeland Security come and speak to the group.

We shall attempt to let everyone know the topic of each program well in advance of the meetings. Do we need to discuss the formation of a Woman's Auxiliary and a Youth Group? If anyone has any ideas for the Club, please bring them to the attention of the Board or the Membership at large. If you wish to be on any committee please let me know, for we are always looking for willing hands and new ideas.

Some committees needing ideas and helping hands are: Field Day.... Emergency Communications & Preparedness.... Public Affairs.... Ladies Night.... Education.... Radio & Equipment.... HamFair.... Information nets.... and Contesting.

We are looking for all Club property, so that we know exactly what we have and where it is, so if you have any club property let myself (Dennis "Rocky Beckner 517.702.1984) or Jim Harvey (517.882.5796) know. We don't want to pick it up - just list what it is and the serial #s, for the club records. Also if you have a key to the Red Cross Radio room, please let me know so we can keep track of them also.

I hope to see you all at the next meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM at the Red Cross. Just a reminder, the Board meets at 7:00 PM and is open to all members.

73's Rocky K8DRB

PS: I have enclosed a questionnaire in this scope. If you haven't filled one out, please do so and bring it to the meeting or send it to me at: 3407 W. Mt. Hope Ave. #A25, Lansing, Mi 48911.

### Hamfests for February

February 7  
Hiawatha ARA, Negaunee, MI  
<http://www.qsl.net/k8lod/>

**Contact:** Bob Serfas, N8PKN  
1600 Bayview Drive  
Marquette, MI 49855  
Phone: 906-225-6773  
Email: n8pkn@aol.com

February 14  
Cherryland ARC, Traverse City, MI

**Contact:** Joe Novak, W8TVT  
201 South Spruce Street  
Traverse City, MI 49684  
Phone: 231-947-8555  
Email: jnovak@traverse.net

February 15  
Livonia ARC, Farmington Hills, MI  
<http://www.larc.mi.org>

**Contact:** Bill Johnston, W8WSJ  
PO Box 51532  
Livonia, MI 48151-5532  
Phone: 248-486-6443  
Email: swap@larc.mi.org

## Upcoming Events For Amateur Participation

April 3, 2004	Skywarn Class 10:00 am—4:00 pm LCC Old Central Auditorium
April 24, 2004	WalkAmerica March of Dimes
May 1, 2004	Help Save Lives LCC
May 2, 2004	MS Walk
July 10-11, 2004	MS 150 Bike-a-thon
July 17, 2004	Women on Wheels

---

## Local Nets

ARES/RACES	Mondays (except 3rd Monday) 8:30 pm 146.58 simplex
DTACS	Tuesdays 7:00 pm 146.94

### For Sale or Not!

Free: TVRO Mesh Dish and 2 receivers.  
Contact Scott Rowe,  
KB8HTM,  
Bath, MI, at 517-641-6201

## Proposed Bands

(from ARRL article)

### **Proposed Phone/Image HF Subbands (Includes Novice Refarming Proposal)**

#### 80 Meters

Extra: 3.725-4.000 MHz (gain of 25 kHz)

General: 3.800-4.000 MHz (gain of 50 kHz)

Novice: 3.900-4.000 MHz (new)

#### 40 meters

Extra: 7.125-7.300 MHz (gain of 25 kHz)

General: 7.175-7.300 MHz (gain of 50 kHz)

Novice: 7.200-7.300 MHz (new)

#### 15 meters

Extra: 21.200-21.450 MHz (no change)

General: 21.275-21.450 MHz (gain of 25 kHz)

Novice: 21.350-21.450 MHz (new)

#### 10 meters

Extra and General: 28.300-29.700 MHz (no change)

Novice: 28.300-28.500 MHz (no change)

### **Proposed CW/Data-Exclusive HF Subbands (Includes Novice Refarming Proposal)**

#### 80 meters

Extra: 3.500-3.725 MHz

General: 3.525-3.725 MHz

Novice: 3.550-3.700 MHz

#### 40 meters

Extra: 7.000-7.125 MHz

General: 7.025-7.125 MHz

Novice: 7.050-7.125 MHz

#### 15 meters

Extra: 21.000-21.200 MHz

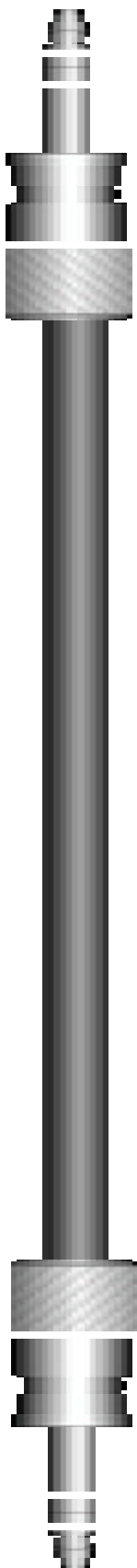
General: 21.025-21.200 MHz

Novice: 21.050-21.200 MHz

#### 10 meters

Extra/General: 28.000-28.300 MHz

Novice: 28.050-28.300 MHz



## Problem Solved—Quick Fix

By Don Devendorf, W8EGI

One evening recently, I overheard a 3-way QSO on 20m SSB involving locals Don Rickerd, W8BQD, and Jack Wiswasser, WA8IAL, working old friend, W8VPC, Ben Hassell, now living in Webster, Texas. During the conversation, Jack mentioned he'd just picked up a message on the G.L.E.T. Net for W8EGI but since it was late, he'd give me a landline the next day.

I work mostly CW so I had to quick find a mike in a drawer, tune up (sort of) on 20 to join the QSO and copy Jack's message off the air. The I discovered the MIC jack was sloppy loose and turning on its own—not a good sign. My transceiver is an Icom 735, new 11 years ago and my first factory-built radio in now 72 years on the air. All previous equipment was either handmade or Heathkit. Since 1992, the mike has been plugged and unplugged numerous times.

The next morning, I pulled off all seven rear cables from the IC-735, turned it over, removed the bottom chassis cover and stared in disbelief at all the boards and parts crammed into such a relatively small space. In today's miniaturization, the same 100 watts comes out of an even tinier box. Using a flashlight, I located the MIC jack, inaccessible behind the boards and parts, but no locknut in sight. Only an insulating strip against the panel and an 8-wire ribbon cable to the audio board (!). All that effort to no avail. Then I remembered what Dad, an electric power industry pioneer, circa 1900, told us kids, "Always Look for Something Simple."

Sure enough, closer examination of the transceiver revealed the MIC jack locknut was actually on the front, outside, partially obscured; recessed behind a front apron. I realized then Icom had thoughtfully provided four equidistant indentations around the locknut to fit a special four-spline wrench in anticipation of this exact situation.

I immediately reached for my handiest tool, a 5" WW-I surgical tweezer given to me by me XYL Jean's Aunt Mary years ago in Toronto (Leftenant Mary Sunley, Canadian Army Nurse, France, 1915).

After taping the jack shank in position, keyway up, a quarter turn clockwise, with the tweezer tips in opposite locknut slots, did it. Pop was right—simple solution to difficult problem. I presume most all modern gear, not just Icom, is engineered thusly to be user friendly!

## 2004 Poorman's Hamfest & Computer Show

### 2 BIG DAYS

Saturday & Sunday  
April 24 & 25, 2004

**Fun, Food, Prizes, Tailgating,  
Camping, Testing & More!**

Tailgating

\$7.00 +  
Admission  
Per space for  
both days

Table/Space

\$8.00 +  
Admission

Friday, April 23  
4:00 PM till 8 PM  
Vendors setup

Saturday, April 24  
6:00 AM  
Vendors/Tailgaters setup

8:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Open to public

Sunday, April 25  
8:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Open to public

Admission

Advance - \$5.00  
Both Days

At the Door - \$7.00

Children under 12 -  
FREE

\*\*\*Come early & enjoy the  
fellowship of camping hams\*\*\*

Camping \$10 per night  
Friday & Saturday  
(Whether in your car, tent, or RV)

Ham Exams Saturday & Sunday  
1:00 PM - Limited seating

Contact Warren Croke, NW4C at : (352) 378-0935, or  
email [NW4C@arrl.net](mailto:NW4C@arrl.net)

**Walk-ins cannot be guaranteed a space.**

GARS 2004 Hamfest Info:

Email responses:

Ray Forrester, W4YTC  
[w4ytc@arrl.net](mailto:w4ytc@arrl.net) or  
(352) 371-0654

To order advance tickets & reserve your tables  
Send Check or Money order with S.A.S.E (Before 4/15/04)  
GARS

P.O. Box 140383  
Gainesville, Florida 32614

#### SHOW SITE

Alachua County Fair Grounds  
SR222 (3400 NE 39th AVE)  
1/2 mile East of SR-24 (Waldo RD)  
Talk in 146.820 (Tone 123.0)

For map, vendor and visitor requirements  
Tax information, or more information:

<http://www.gars.net/hamfest>



## **My Story**

### **Dan Harger. W8BCI**

People ask me how I have learned what I have learned about electronics, repeaters, ham radio and other stuff! W8HVG wrote about his life and it was fascinating to hear about it, and I'm not going to bore you about my life 'cuz it's not boring! At least I don't think so...ho! Ho!

I was born in Farmington, Michigan, August 9, 1930! The Great Depression was in full swing. Dad was preparing himself to go into the ministry for the Methodist church. Lillian Harger, dad's mom, used to say: "I'm a Methodist and I'll be a Methodist 'til I die," and truly, that's the way she lived and died! Grammie, I used to call her, could sing and play the piano beautifully. Granpa Harger, dad's father, Says Harger, had a butter, eggs and cheese distributing business he ran out of their large home in Farmington. When I was 16 and got my chauffer's license, I drove trucks for granpa, but for many, many years when I was younger, I rode along with him on the routes.

My father, Cedric, got through college. He had four years at Albion College in Michigan and got his degree in theology from Garrett, which was part of Northwestern University. The elevated train ran right by the campus housing in Evanston, where the university is today. At the time, it was supported by huge 2 foot square timbers that were criss-crossed and held together by very large bolts! It made great climbing for me when I was five years old and was quite safe, at least near

the ground.

Dad's first ministerial job that lasted had us living in Port Austin, Michigan. His first calling, a little parish in Illinois, he was tossed out of because of very radical preaching. Hey! He was young and just starting out! What do you expect? The pastorate in Port Austin had THREE churches! Port Austin, Grind Stone City and Grant! Wow! The churches were all quite poor financially, so they paid dad in vegetables and small change. And here's where radio came in. In order to support himself in the ministry and keep his family of four fed, dad took a correspondence course in radio repair from the National Radio Institute! Dad became very good at radio repair and we were able to keep eating! People heard about dad's expertise in radio repair and came from all over the thumb area and Huron County. My sleeping for many years was on a cot in the room where dad had is radio repair bench. One wonders if sniffing rosin fumes from the soldering iron had an unusual effect on me...well, it's only mental!

As it turned out, we were only at Port Austin for two years and then dad transferred to Elkton, a little further south in Michigan, where he only had to pastor two churches! Five miles from Elkton was another little town called Pigeon. There was another Methodist minister there by the name of Bill Morford. Bill and Dad got their heads together to put together a radio show for the Methodist church...I'll tell you more about this next month!!

## **Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club**

### **Minutes of the Board Meeting**

#### **January 9, 2004**

The meeting was brought to order by club president Rocky Beckner (K8DRB) at 7:05 p.m.

The following board members were present for the meeting:

Rocky Beckner (K8DRB) - President  
John Hosford (KC8QZB) - Vice President  
Randy Stortz (K8VY) - Treasurer  
Dick McGuire (K18C) - Secretary  
Jane Law (KC8FSK) - Director  
Gregg Mulder (WB8LZG) - Director

Rocky began the meeting by welcoming everybody and went on to announce committees:

- Radio and Equipment Committee - Jim Harvey (KA8DDQ) Chairman
- Hamfair
- Field Day
- Ladies' Night (There was some discussion about the composition of this committee; it is undetermined at this time.)

Rocky stated that he will make calls to ask inactive members to do things, spreading the workload. He intends to be a hands-on president; he will not just sit and wait for things to happen.

Club checks can be signed by club president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.

The club vice president will have a copy of everything the president has, so that he can step in at any time.

Rocky wants people to state agreement or disagreement, instead of remaining silent.

Randy Stortz (K8VY) mentioned a check that has been returned for lack of funds. The member has not responded to communications. The board agreed to notify the member via certified mail and suspend membership privileges until the member makes good or at least gives an adequate response.

The club president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer have special green notebooks for club business.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15. Moved by Gregg Mulder (WB8LZG) and seconded by Dick McGuire (K18C).

## Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club Membership Information Sheet

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have Emergency power? (Circle one) Yes No  
If yes how long can you operate without commercial power? \_\_\_\_\_

What band and modes do you operate?  
(Circle all that apply FIXED, X all that apply MOBILE)

<b>CW</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>75/80</b>	<b>5Mhz</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1240</b>	<b>Above</b>
<b>SSB</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>75/80</b>	<b>5Mhz</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1240</b>	<b>Above</b>
<b>FM</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>75/80</b>	<b>5Mhz</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1240</b>	<b>Above</b>
<b>DIG</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>75/80</b>	<b>5Mhz</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1240</b>	<b>Above</b>

Other Modes of operating (please list): \_\_\_\_\_

What are your areas of interest? (Circle all that apply)

- |                             |                                  |                                   |  |   |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| <u><a href="#">DX</a></u>   | <u><a href="#">Awards</a></u>    | <u><a href="#">Contesting</a></u> | <u><a href="#">Emergency Comm.</a></u> | <u><a href="#">Building Equip</a></u>       |
| <u><a href="#">APRS</a></u> | <u><a href="#">Skywarn</a></u>   | <u><a href="#">Repeaters</a></u>  | <u><a href="#">Public Service</a></u>  | <u><a href="#">Mobile Operating</a></u>     |
| <u><a href="#">ATV</a></u>  | <u><a href="#">Field Day</a></u> | <u><a href="#">Traffic</a></u>    | <u><a href="#">Experimentation</a></u> | <u><a href="#">Technical/Eq. Repair</a></u> |
| <u><a href="#">VEC</a></u>  | <u><a href="#">MARS</a></u>      | <u><a href="#">Elmering</a></u>   | <u><a href="#">Digital Modes</a></u>   | <u><a href="#">Ham Satellites</a></u>       |
| <u><a href="#">SWL</a></u>  | <u><a href="#">Travel</a></u>    | <u><a href="#">Hamfests</a></u>   | <u><a href="#">Other</a></u>           | _____                                       |


What other hobbies and interests do you have? \_\_\_\_\_

What type of topics and programs would you like CMARC to present? \_\_\_\_\_

What would you like to see CMARC do now and in the future? \_\_\_\_\_

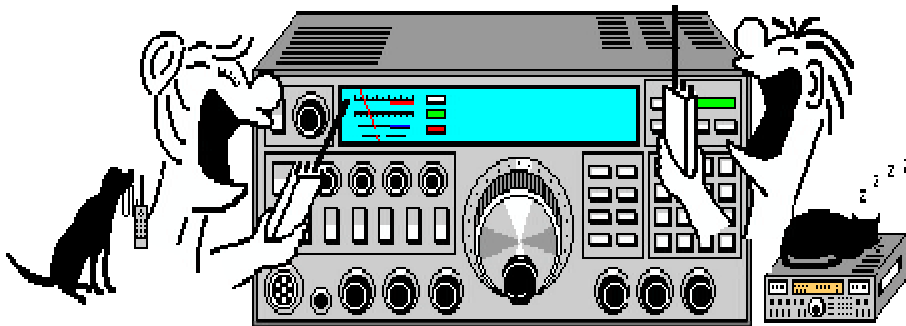


# February 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29						

## Special Items of Interest

\* Richard Cole is looking for a housekeeper. Contact him at the next CMARC meeting



## February Schedule of Events

- Feb 2 DTACS Meeting  
7:00 p.m., Delta Township  
Fire Station
- Feb 6 CMARC Meeting  
7:30 p.m., Red Cross  
Building, Lansing
- Feb 7 .39ers meet at Nic's  
3812 S MLK Blvd  
8:00 am
- Feb 11 OOTC (Old Old Timers  
Club), Flap Jack,  
1601 N Waverly Rd  
1:00 pm
- Feb 14 .39ers meet at Nic's  
3812 S MLK Blvd  
8:00 am
- Feb 16 Lansing ARES/RACES  
ICSD, Mason  
7:00 pm
- Feb 21 .39ers meet at Nic's  
3812 S MLK Blvd  
8:00 am
- Feb 28 .39ers meet at Nic's  
3812 S MLK Blvd  
8:00 am
- Feb 28 QWCA, Korner Kitchen  
Mt Hope & Pennsylvania  
8:00 am

## February Birthdays

- Feb 4 Ralph Chapman, WA8NHD  
Feb 13 Evelyn Sitterson, KC8YMN

## February Anniversaries

- Feb 14 Irving Graham

Address or Email change?

Please make corrections on address label and mail to:

John Ingraham/NG8L, Membership Chairman  
2807 Greenbriar Avenue  
Lansing, MI 48912

Or email changes to: NG8L@arrl.net

[www.qsl.net/cmrc](http://www.qsl.net/cmrc)  
**80 Years of Service to Our Community!**  
[www.qsl.net/lcdra](http://www.qsl.net/lcdra)

## ARRL to Propose New Entry-Level License, Code-Free HF Access (ARRL Amateur Radio News)

(cont'd from page 1)

without further testing.

Anticipating assertions that the new plan would "dumb down" Amateur Radio licensing, Harrison said those currently holding a ticket often perceive the level of complexity to have been greater when they were first licensed than it actually was. "Quite frankly," he said, "if you review the questions presented in our license manuals throughout the years, you will be surprised how they compare to those of today."

### **Technicians and Generals**

The middle group of licensees-- Technician, Tech Plus (Technician with Element 1 credit) and General-- would be consolidated into a new General license that no longer would require a Morse examination. Current Technician and Tech Plus license holders automatically would gain current General class privileges without additional testing.

The current Element 3 General examination would remain in place for new applicants. ARRL already has proposed additional phone privileges for Generals in its "Novice reformatting" petition, RM-10413, but the FCC has not yet acted on that petition.

### **Morse Code Testing Retained for Extra**

At the top rung, the Board indicated that it saw no compelling reason to change the Amateur Extra class license requirements. The ARRL plan calls on the FCC to combine the current Advanced and Amateur Extra class licensees into Amateur Extra, because the technical level of the ex-

ams passed by these licensees is very similar.

New applicants for Extra would have to pass a 5 WPM Morse code examination, but the written exam would stay the same. The League's plan calls for current Novice, Tech Plus and General class licensees to receive lifetime Element 1 (5 WPM Morse) credit.

"This structure provides a true entry-level license with HF privileges to promote growth in the Amateur Service," Harrison said. "It also simplifies the FCC database by conforming to the current Universal Licensing System (ULS) structure and does not mandate any modifications to it."

Sumner concurred. "The Board started out by recognizing that three license classes was the right number when looking down the road 10 or 15 years," he said. "We need a new entry-level license."

"On the other hand, there's nothing particularly wrong with the existing Extra class license," he continued. "The change in the international regulations notwithstanding, the Board felt that the highest level of accomplishment in the FCC's amateur licensing structure should include basic Morse capability."

Sumner and Harrison say the current Technician entry-level ticket provides little opportunity to experience facets of ham radio beyond repeater operation. "The quality of that experience," Sumner said, "often depends on the operator's location."

Among other advantages, Sumner said the plan would allow new Nov-

ices to participate in HF SSB emergency nets on 75 and 40 meters as well as on the top 100 kHz of 15 meters. The new license also could get another name, Sumner said. "We're trying to recapture the magic of the old Novice license, but in a manner that's appropriate for the 21st century."

### **Proposal Includes "Novice Reformatting" Band Plan**

The overall proposed ARRL license restructuring plan would more smoothly integrate HF spectrum privileges across the three license classes and would incorporate the "Novice reformatting" plan the League put forth nearly two years ago in a Petition for Rule Making (RM-10413).

The FCC has not yet acted on the ARRL plan, which would alter the current HF subbands. The Novice reformatting proposal would eliminate the 80, 40 and 15-meter Novice/ Technician Plus CW subbands as such and reuse that spectrum in part to expand phone/image subbands on 80 and 40 meters.

The ARRL license restructuring design calls for no changes in privileges for Extra and General class licensees on 160, 60, 30, 20, 17 or 12 meters. Novice licensees would have no access to those bands.

Submitted by Doug Warner, KC8TIQ

## Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club

### Minutes of the Meeting

#### (January 9, 2004)

The business meeting was brought to order by club president Rock Beckner (K8RDB) at 7:31 p.m.

#### Members

20 members were present at the meeting.

#### Visitors

Mary Tillitson  
James L. Retzlaff, Sr. (KA4ZSM)  
Mike Sanders (KC8FCA)

The meeting started with people standing up and introducing themselves.

#### Upgrades and New Licenses

None

#### Old Business

Published minutes were accepted with corrections. (John Hosford's call should be KC8QZB, and Rocky's last name should be Beckner.)

Treasurer's report was accepted as published in The Scope.

There were no officer or director reports.

There were no new cards or flowers.

Rocky announced that several committees will be appointed by the next meeting.

1. He wants an audit committee. John Hosford (KC8QZB) will chair the audit committee.
2. He has already asked Evelyn Sitterson (KC8YMN) to continue doing The Scope and would like Doug Sitterson (KC8UUF) to continue with the web page.

3. He would like the Finance Committee (three Dons) to meet and submit a budget.
4. John Ingraham (NG8L) will continue as membership chair. The remainder of his committee will be the entire membership of CMARC.
5. Ladies' Night Committee. Don Tillitson (WB8NUS) will chair, with apparent pleasure.
6. Radio and Equipment Committee. Jim Harvey (KA8DDQ) will chair, with encouragement to inventory.

Gregg Mulder (WB8LZG) announced flyers for the upcoming amateur radio class at MSU. Greg then initiated discussions on a series of topics:

1. QSL cards, including an explanation of the bureau
2. Polls of members concerning various classes of license and operating modes; the upcoming amateur radio class could benefit some of the responding members.
3. A recent Scope article concerning operating practices on fm repeaters. There was considerable discussion on these practices.

#### Unfinished Business

None.

#### New Business

Rocky announced a questionnaire/information sheet, being passed out to find out what we want the club to do.

Don Cote (KD8BD) requested appointment of a Field Day Chairman. Rocky will have one by the next meeting.

Bruce Rainey (KC8ODP) questioned whether letters had been sent to donors to the Humphreys Fund, since he had not received his letter. Rocky will find out.

#### Announcements

Next Thursday's (January 15) LCDRA meeting will be 7 p.m. at Fire Station Number 8.

Next Saturday (January 17) will be the QCWA Dinner at Delhi Township Fire Department.

Also on January 17 will be the Flushing Hamfest.

Hazel Park Hamfest will be January 18.

Evelyn Sitterson (KC8YMN) thanked members for the many articles she has received for The Scope.

Dick McGuire (K18C) will update the ARRL information on CMARC leadership.

Equipment in the radio room needs more use by more people. Also concerning the radio room, three keys are missing.

Richard Cole won \$9.50 at the 50/50 drawing.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m. Moved by Bruce Rainey (KC8ODP) and seconded by Don Cote (KD8BD).

Remember America's Heroes



Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club  
Lansing Civil Defense Repeater Association  
P O BOX 27321  
LANSING MI 48909



**CMARC**— Full membership: \$10 per year.  
Associate membership: \$5 per year.

Please make check or money order payable to CMARC and mail to: John Ingraham/NG8L, Membership Chairman, 2807 Greenbriar Avenue, Lansing MI 48912.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member?  Yes  No

Email SCOPE?  Yes  No

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth day: \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Anniversary: \_\_\_\_\_

As a licensed Amateur, you can sign up today as a FULL member of CMARC. You will have voting rights as well as an annual subscription to the SCOPE. As an ASSOCIATE, you have an annual subscription to the SCOPE, but no voting rights.

**LCDRA**— Membership: \$15 per year (January to January)  
Additional family members: \$7.50 per person

Send check or money order payable to:  
L.C.D.R.A., PO Box 80106, Lansing MI 48908

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member?  Yes  No

Email SCOPE?  Yes  No

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth day: \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary: \_\_\_\_\_

Use of the repeater does not REQUIRE membership, but your support is GREATLY appreciated.

HAMFEST 2003

- Swap/Trunk Sales \$4.00
- Table \$8.00

Send payment along with this form to the address above.