



President's Notes for February 2017

Amateur Radio Antenna Restrictions: The Amateur Radio Antenna Parity Act was reintroduced and has passed the House of Representatives, and is now on to the Senate. I was curious as to what the “meat” of the law was, so I looked it up. Here are the relevant paragraphs:

(a) AMENDMENT OF FCC RULES.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Communications Commission shall amend section 97.15 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, by adding a new paragraph that prohibits the application to amateur stations of any private land use restriction, including a restrictive covenant, that—

(1) on its face or as applied, precludes communications in an amateur radio service;

(2) fails to permit a licensee in an amateur radio service to install and maintain an effective outdoor antenna on property under the exclusive use or control of the licensee; or

(3) does not constitute the minimum practicable restriction on such communications to accomplish the lawful purposes of a community association seeking to enforce such restriction.

(b) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—In amending its rules as required by subsection (a), the Commission shall—

(1) require any licensee in an amateur radio service to notify and obtain prior approval from a community association concerning installation of an outdoor antenna;

(2) permit a community association to prohibit installation of any antenna or antenna support structure by a licensee in an amateur radio service on common property not under the exclusive use or control of the licensee; and

(3) subject to the standards specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a), permit a community association to establish reasonable written rules concerning height, location, size, and aesthetic impact of, and installation requirements for, outdoor antennas and support structures for the purpose of conducting communications in the amateur radio services.

Important items:

- Prevents a complete ban on antennas.
- Enters into a negotiation with the community association, but must be “reasonable written rules... for the purpose of conducting communications in the amateur radio services.”
- Requires the licensee to notify and obtain prior approval.
- Does not require the community to allow antennas on common property. (Cannot put up antennas in Condos that are not exclusive to the owner. This may limit antennas to the balcony or deck of the condo owner.

I think this proposed law will certainly help those with private homes and restrictive bylaws and covenants. For the Condo dweller, it is pretty limited, but a bit better than before, and gives similar leeway to that was given for satellite dishes. The condo association that I once belonged to ended up allowing dish mounting to the common walls up high in order to prevent tall poles from the deck or balcony from sticking out at ground level. I hope the negotiation provided by this law, if enacted, would give hams similar results. I nice wire hidden under the eaves or in the trees is better than a Cushcraft R8 mounted to a deck outside the front door!

Next steps on this bill: It will go back through committee in the Senate and then for debate, if the senator from Florida once again prevents a vote without debate. Stay tuned for possible letter writing again once the bill is introduced into the Senate.

Interesting fact: Each House Bill since 2011 must have a statement regarding the Constitutional authority for the law. This bill is under the 14th amendment, Section 1 clause: “. . . the means employed to effect its exercise may be neither arbitrary nor oppressive but must bear a real and substantial relation to an end that is public, specifically, the public health, safety, or morals, or some other aspect of the general welfare.”

Repeater: My monthly update on the repeater. We have noisy mornings and quiet mornings. Temperature, humidity, rain do not seem to influence this. We did have some unusual operation a few weeks ago. We were getting tropo ducting coming in during the warm weather; when we have warm and cold air masses at levels above ground that reflect radio signals. We can get the Grand Rapids area repeater coming in, but we hear it on the output frequency, not the input, as the Grand Rapids area uses a different PL tone. However, this ducting was tripping our 100 Hz PL and transmitting voice, or sometimes just a clear signal. The effect lasted a couple of days, and then disappeared. Interesting!

February Meeting: Thanks to Roger Reini, KD8CSE, for leading the meeting in February and for working on a presentation for you. I will be updating my Vitamin D stores in Jamaica with my wife, celebrating her birthday.

73,
David Treharne
N8HKU
FARL Club President



Ford Amateur Radio League (AKA: The Tin Lizzy Club) **Club Meeting Minutes – January 12, 2017**

Ford Amateur Radio League Meeting Minutes January 12, 2017

Call to order at 6:01 PM by Dave was done.

Roll Call was done and announced for all to know and start the year.

1. **Minutes** from prior meeting reviewed, motion to approve.
2. **Treasurers Report:** Pat reported that the balance was (not shown) with interest (not shown).
 - Dues for \$20 received for new member. Tom Bray, W8TJB
 - Motion to approve treasurer's report approved.
3. **Board of Directors Discussion:** no comments
4. **Committee Reports:**
 - A. **Repeater** noise discussion and some good days, some bad days. Can help to go to digital and reset this for noise if you can. Tye said he has found the transmitter stuck on some times in AM. Dave said it's been shut off and has turned on again in the AM about 6:30 without being restarted. Discussion of please use the coded squelch and if you hear some noise please check it's not a conversation in Digital but your Analog hears some noise. It's a dual mode repeater and auto switches but the noise in digital to analog transition is a noise on digital radios that is loud per Dave.
 - B. **Net**, going on Sunday nights, Analog has worked so far and been OK per discussion.
 - C. **Education and Training**, none coming. Tye has 4-5 people in Ford for the next class and mix of technician and general class.
 - D. **Communications and newsletter** – send items to Rajiv

Discussion of new topics for this or a presentation to group request was made if interested. Some suggestions were Software Defined Radio (AI), Radio Repair (Tye), Education with IEEE (Mac).
 - E. **Historian** has transitioned to Tye Winkel, no discussion at meeting. Tye asked about how to store and keep the information, can digitize or scan but how to keep this on an optical or magnetic media.
 - F. The FT-990 that was sold last year has found a happy owner and is using it per comment. The list of items in our inventory is up to date per Dave.

5. Unfinished and Current Business:

6. New Business

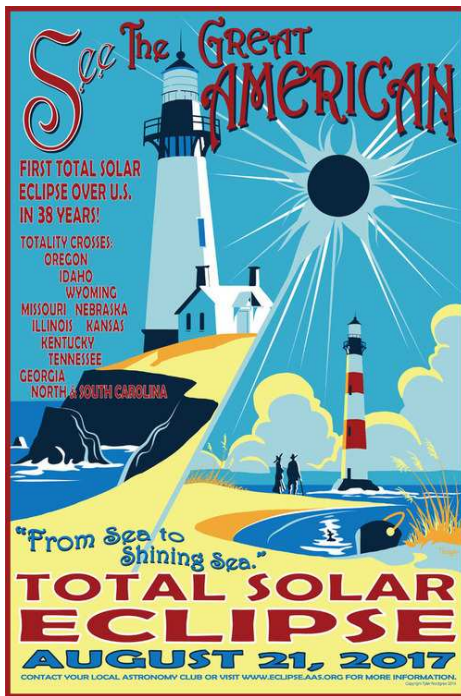
- Annual Post Office Box Rental Renewal for \$86 was discussed. Motion to approve made and done.
- The early start of 6:00 PM was discussed for; is this OK to group or to early vs. the 6:30 PM start? OK to stay at 6:00 PM start.
- Yaesu Shirts from Dayton were to be at meeting, M. Lunn left at home so be there for the February meeting.
- Looking for more topics, discussion was above.
- February Meeting, Roger will run this since Dave is out on vacation.
- Tables for Hazel Park was discussed, not planned from discussion.
- Livonia may be a possible swap to attend, that's coming in February.
- Question of the social media for the FARL Tin Lizzy was asked, yes it exists and is used in Field Day for points, active on Facebook and has a presence.

Program: Anderson Power pole connection system, the history of how these were started and use in quick connectors of standard type. Easy to use in the cables and change quickly, robust but has an assembly, crimp and guide for snap to seat. Some robust RTV or hot melt at end for strain relief and the assembly retainers are discussed for robust connections or tie straps.

Adjourned at 7:29 PM.

Attendance:

1. Dave Treharne, N8HKU
2. Malcolm Lunn, KD8TPO
3. Jessie Trimble, AC8WP
4. Gerry Trimble, K68HZ
5. Bob Stead, K8ETE
6. Pat Quinn, WD8JDZ
7. Rodney Deyo, K8SGL
8. Roger Reini, KD8CSE
9. Sam Wells, KD8YTR
10. Al Habbal, W8AMH
11. Tom Bray, W8TJB
12. Robert Rusty Eizen, N8RGI
13. John Oynoian, KE8CTQ
14. Tye Winkel, KC8YEJ



The Great American Eclipse 2017 and Ham Radio - Roger Reini, KD8CSE

In case you haven't heard, there will be a total eclipse of the sun crossing the United States on August 21, 2017. The Detroit area will not be in the path of totality; however, it will experience a partial eclipse, with some 78 to 82% of the sun being covered by the moon. The closest part of the path of the total eclipse to Detroit will be southwestern Kentucky and north-central Tennessee. I intend to travel to Kansas City with my uncle to see the eclipse.

There will be some Amateur Radio connections to the eclipse. Several special event stations are planned to be in action during the eclipse period; some will be in the path of totality, while others will not. This list may very well grow as the event draws nearer.

- W9E is scheduled to operate from August 17 to August 21 out of Illinois.
- W4E is planning to operate on eclipse day, August 21, out of South Carolina.
- W4S will operate August 20 and 21 out of Memphis
- N0S will operate August 20 to 22 out of Missouri.
- K7E will operate from August 20 to 22 out of Arizona.
- W0E will operate August 19 to 22 out of Missouri. W0S will operate from August 19 to 22 out of California. W9S will operate from August 18 to 22 out of Illinois.
- K0S will operate from August 18 to 24 out of South Dakota.
- K1E will operate from August 15 to 22 out of Arizona.
- N0D will operate from August 14 to 27 out of Texas.
- K4S will operate from August 10 to 25 out of Indiana.

There will also be a QSO party during the eclipse, the Solar Eclipse QSO Party. The February issue of QST has a 3-page article on the event, which runs from 1400 to 2200 UTC on August 21. Modes include CW, RTTY and PSK31; bands include all standard HF contesting bands and 6 meters. For more information, go to <http://hamsci.org/basic-project/2017-total-solar-eclipse>.



Club Repeater Information

The Ford Amateur Radio League operates 3 club repeaters under the club K8UTT license. All the repeaters are located in the Dearborn, MI area near the Southfield Freeway. All repeaters are open for members and guests to operate.

Repeater	Output Freq	Input Freq	Tone
2 M Repeater	145.270	-600 KHz	100 Hz PL
1 1/4 M Repeater	224.520	-1.6 MHz	100 Hz PL

Club Net: 8pm on Sunday, 2 and 1-1/4 Meter Repeaters!



Classes and Exams

The following amateur radio clubs conduct license exams throughout the year. Many clubs allow walk-ins but pre-registration will insure an exam is available for you when you attend.

Club Name	Contact Person	Phone	Email
Ford Amateur Radio League	Bill Boyke	313-805-8877	wboyke@ford.com
South Lyon ARC	Christian Anderson	248-437-3088	K8VJ@arr.net
Motor City ARC	Don Novak	734-281-7030	K8THU@arrl.net
Hazel Park ARC	Jerry Begel	248-543-2284	w9npi@comcast.net
USECA ARC	Joseph Kennedy	586-977-7222	N8OZ@arrl.net
ARROW Assn	Roger Place	734-663-4625	merrogplace@aol.com

Some of the above clubs also conduct license classes. Please contact them for additional information.



2016-2017 Club Officers

Please contact any of the officers for information regarding the Ford Amateur Radio League, or go to the club website at www.k8utt.org for current events and activities.

President	Dave Treharne	N8HKU	734-476-1666
Vice President	Roger Reini	KD8CSE	734-728-1509
Treasurer	Pat Quinn	WD8JDZ	734-729-1993
Secretary	Mac Lunn	KD8TPO	313-805-0427
Repeater Chair	Murray Scott	KE8UM	248-743-1704
K8UTT Trustee	Dave Treharne	N8HKU	734-476-1666
Activity Chair	Bill Boyke	N80ZV	313-805-8877
Bolt Editor	Rajiv Paul	KD8LHF	313-244-2515



Club Meetings

The Ford Amateur Radio Club meets on the second Thursday of each month, except for Christmas and the summer months July and August. The meetings are held at 6:00 PM at the Ford Engine Manufacturing & Development Offices (EMDO) building. EMDO (located at 17000 Southfield Rd, Allen Park, MI) is south of I-94 on the east side of Southfield just north of the Allen Park Municipal offices. Park in the front of the building and come into the main lobby at the side. Knock on the inside door on the right if no one is standing there to let you in.



Next Club Meeting: February 09, 2016 at 6:00PM
Topic: Magnetic Loop Antennas

The Ford Amateur Radio League
PO Box 2711
Dearborn, MI 48123