



President's Notes for March 2016

The new Yaesu System Fusion repeater is on the air! Murray Scott, KE8UM, installed it on February 22nd. See the pictures of its installation in the cabinet at the end of this article. It is running in Automatic Mode Select, which means it will transmit digital if it receives digital, and analog when it receives analog. If you hear it sending what seems to be noise, just join the conversation via analog. The repeater will change over, and the System Fusion radios in the conversation will also shift over to analog at that point. This will keep everyone who wants to use the repeater included. The receiving range of the repeater does not seem to have changed, and our old transmit amplifier seems to be working very well with it, as the transmit range appears to be good as well. Roger, KD8CSE, and myself were on the air with it on Tuesday night both analog and digital. The received signal strength was the same as it was the prior Sunday during the weekly net, and we could communicate digital and analog down to 5W. The digital sounded better at 5W, as the analog had quite a bit of noise with the signal. Others have reported that they think the received audio quality in analog mode has actually improved over our prior machine. Anyway, it is up and running. Our heartfelt thanks to Mac, KD8TPO, for his very generous funding of the new repeater and its accessories. We continue to stabilize and improve the system. I was up to the repeater on Tuesday March 1st to debug and fix the cell phone connection to allow for remote disconnections. Murray plans to head back to the site on March 8th to make some adjustments and add some 90 degree adaptor connectors to the back of the repeater. The new repeater is long enough that the coax cables must make a severe bend against the back of the cabinet. Mac and Tye, KC8YEJ, found some 90 deg bend connectors at the Livonia swap to take the stress off of the coax. Murray will also try to get the 100 Hz tone output working again, so we can use tone encoded squelch in analog mode. He had it working on his bench, but he believes a ground is missing. One other thing that could use a bit of adjustment is the squelch tail after the end of an analog transmission. We are not sure how to fix this yet, but other System Fusion Repeaters in the area do not seem to have this problem.

FARL at the Livonia Swap and Shop: At the Livonia Swap, we sold the Kenwood TS-830 HF radio. We sold it to Gerry Trimble, who also made an application to reinstate his club membership. I did not even have to bring it in from the car, as he arranged to purchase it during the prior week. I personally bought the club MFJ Voice Keyer, which will work with my Icom IC-9100. I brought along a couple of items for sale from my personal collection, and both of them were gone by 8:10am that morning. Roger made some personal sales from the club table as well. All in all, a very good event! We did not attempt to sell the FT-990 at the swap. Because of its condition, it will need to be sold for parts.

It is Skywarn season again! A good time to get your annual refresher certification for extreme weather events. Look for the schedule of upcoming sessions in the newsletter.

Our March club meeting presentation will be a coming out party for our new club Yaesu FT-991 radio. We will demo System Fusion on it, and show off some of its capabilities. Due to us not wanting to set up a HF antenna for the meeting, those wanting to hear it on the HF bands will have to wait until Field Day, or borrow it to operate with their home station antennas. As I have said before, I strongly recommend we purchase some kind of carrying housing for the unit and its accessories. We will discuss this more during the March club meeting.

73,
 Dave
 N8HKU



Local Hams on a DXpedition!

- David, N8HKU

At the Livonia Swap, I caught up with Larry Koziel, K8MU, who worked very hard with Gordon, KD8COJ, on the ARISS contact. It turns out that Larry and his friends are now on a DXpedition to East Kiribati, also known as Christmas Island! Here is the entry. They should be on the air as you read this. I bet it is nice and warm where they are!

2016 Mar01	2016 Mar16	East Kiribati	T32 [spots]	LotW	K8AQM 20150906	By K8AQM as T32TR, KG8CO as T32CO, K8QKY as T32SB, K8MU as T32MU, AC8W as T32WW, N8LJ as T32LJ, N6FS as T32FS; 160-10m; CW SSB + digital; 500w; beach verticals; QRV for ARRL DX SSB; QSL also OK via AC8JF
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FARL Repeater Tour! - David, N8HKU



System Fusion Repeater

S-COM Repeater Controller

Old Repeater.
Still installed in the cabinet

Repeater Amplifier:
20W in, 100W out

Isolator: Cavity Resonator to use
the repeater with a single
antenna. Tuned to the FARL
Transmit and Receive frequencies

12V backup battery



Ford Amateur Radio League (AKA: The Tin Lizzy Club) **Club Meeting Minutes – February 11, 2016**

Meeting Minutes for FARL February 11, 2016

In Attendance: X members

Roger Reini, KD8CSE
Sam Wells, KD8YTR
Gerry Trimble, KG8HZ
Richard Maske, K8RMM
Rodney Deyo, K8SGL
Pat Quinn, WD8JDZ

Meeting called to order at 6:38 PM by Roger, KD8CSE, Vice-President, filling in for the absent president Dave Treharne, N8HKU.

Minutes from January were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's report was given by Pat, WD8JDZ. Among the deposits were the funds owed the club from FERA from 2014 checks never deposited and the rebate from Yaesu for the purchase of the FT-991. Roger, KD8CSE, had requested reimbursement for the \$86 he spent renewing the post office box for another year (see Unfinished/Current Business for more). The report was approved by voice vote.

Board of Directors: did not meet formally.

Repeater: the primary 2 meter repeater and controller were removed the prior weekend and replaced with backups; this was to allow Murray KE8UM, to get the new DR-1X repeater working with the primary controller. The 220 MHz repeater was also replaced. Unfortunately, there is no audio coming from the 2 meter repeater; the status of the 220 repeater was not known at meeting time. Dave, N8HKU, said earlier in the week that he would contact Murray.

Sunday Night Net: the net has been going strong on Sunday nights, but with the repeater not operating properly, it will likely not take place.

Education/Training: classes have started at Ford, with a testing session planned for March 22. The classes were to have been for General class training, but the students now attending are taking Technician class training.

Newsletter/Website: the February newsletter was published just in time for the meeting, while the website is still up and running.

FERA: Roger, KD8CSE, attempted to get Autorama tickets for sale, but none were available at the General Council meeting. Rebate from the sale of Entertainment books will be paid in April; the rebate from the sale of auto show tickets is uncertain due to FERA's lower overall sales; if paid, it will also be paid in April.

Historian: no update.

Club Inventory: the FT990 has a severely damaged display board that cannot be repaired. Tye, KC8YEJ, recommended selling the receiver for parts, as a working display board is very difficult to find and the main digital board is known to be functional.

Application for Membership: Bob Stead, K8ETE, a regular on the Sunday night net, applied to join the club in order to support the repeater. His application was approved by a unanimous vote.

Post Office Box Renewal: motion to authorize payment of \$86 to Roger, KD8CSE, as reimbursement for renewal of the club post office box was approved.

Announcements: the club will have a table at the LARC swap on February 21. Bring your stuff to sell! The club will be selling the TS-830 and the MFJ voice recorder. The new FT-991 will be demonstrated at the March club meeting, in conjunction with discussion of carrying case options.

Presentation: Roger, KD8CSE, gave the evening's presentation on NVIS operation. The presentation came from the ARRL library. It provoked some discussion of whether NVIS could be useful for the PEAC ride.

Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM.

Minutes prepared by Roger, KD8CSE, from notes taken by Rich, K8RMM.



HAMFEST 2016



TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO ASSOCIATION

TMRA 61st Hamfest - Radios/Computers/Electronics

March 20th 2016 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Owens Community College
Student Health and Activity Center (SHAC)
30335 Oregon Road, Perrysburg, OH 43551

On Campus Parking is Free and Close to the Hamfest

GPS N 41° 35.575' W 83° 32.051' Talk-in: 147.27+ (PL 103.5)

This Huge Hamfest is Indoors and Security is Provided.

Tables are \$20.00 (floor) \$25.00 (wall) - free electric hook-up

All admission tickets are \$7.00
(Children 12 years old and under – FREE)

TABLE APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE DOWN LOADED FROM OUR WEB SITE
INFORMATION ON VE TESTING IS ON OUR WEB SITE
INFORMATION ON FORUMS WILL SOON BE ON OUR WEBSITE
www.tmrahamradio.org

SEND REQUEST FOR TABLE APPLICATION FORM and/or TICKETS TO
TMRA, P.O. BOX 9673, TOLEDO, OH 43697-9673
Please include a SASE if just for tickets

PRIZE DRAWINGS

2:00pm \$500.00 CASH PRIZE (NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN)
NOON \$250.00 CASH PRIZE (MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN)
9:00am, 10:00am, & 11:00am - \$100.00 CASH PRIZE (MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN)

Below is the schedule for this year's spotter training. Training dates are also posted on our homepage. Check our web page periodically for additional updates to this schedule. In some cases, class size is limited. Please contact the local Emergency Management Office for more information. We look forward to seeing you at this year's Skywarn Spotter training class!

Skywarn Spotter Training Classes for 2015

DATE	COUNTY	ADDRESS	TIME
Mon Mar 2	St. Clair	St. Clair County Building 200 Grand River Ave., Port Huron, MI 48060	7 PM to 9 PM
Wed Mar 4	Oakland	Oakland County Executive Building 2100 Pontiac Lake Rd, Waterford, MI 48328	7 PM to 9 PM
Mon Mar 9	Oakland	Orion Center 1335 Joslyn Rd, Lake Orion, MI 48359	7 PM to 9 PM
Tue Mar 10	Saginaw	Covenant Cooper Campus 700 Cooper Ave, Saginaw, MI 48603	6:30 PM to 8 PM
Thu Mar 12	Washtenaw	Ypsilanti Civic Center Auditorium 7200 S Huron River Dr., Ypsilanti, MI 48197	7 PM to 9 PM
Sat Mar 14	Wayne	Garden City Presbyterian Church 1841 Middlebelt Rd, Garden City, MI 48135	10 AM to 12 PM
Sat Mar 21	Oakland	Oakland County Executive Building 2100 Pontiac Lake Rd, Waterford, MI 48328	10 AM to 2 PM 1 PM to 3 PM
Mon Mar 23	Oakland	Groveland Township Fire 14645 Dixie Hwy, Holly, MI 48442	7 PM to 9 PM
Tue Mar 24	Genesee	Genesee County Building Third Floor Auditorium 1101 Beach St., Room G-25, Flint, MI 48502	7 PM to 8:30 PM
Wed Mar 25	Wayne	Livonia Library 32777 Five Mile Rd, Livonia, MI 48154	7 PM to 9 PM
Sat Mar 28	Macomb	Macomb ISD 44001 Garfield, Clinton Township, MI 48036	10 AM to 12 PM
Tue Mar 31	Sanilac	Firebird Theater 280 E Sanilac Rd, Sandusky, MI 48471	7 PM to 9 PM
Wed Apr 1	Oakland	Southfield Library 26300 Evergreen Rd, Southfield, MI 48076	6 PM to 8 PM
Wed Apr 2	Tuscola	Tuscola County Medical Care Facility Business Annex 1285 Cleaver Rd (M-24), Caro, MI 48723	7 PM to 8:30 PM
Wed Apr 8	Macomb	Macomb ISD 44001 Garfield, Clinton Township, MI 48036	7 PM to 8:30 PM
Fri Apr 10	Wayne	Westfield Center, 2700 Westfield, Trenton, MI	7 PM to 9 PM
Sat Apr 11	Washtenaw	Pioneer High School 601 W Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103	10 AM to 12 PM
Mon Apr 13	Monroe	820 Dundee Azalia Rd, Dundee, MI 48131	7 PM to 8:30 PM
Mon Apr 15	Lenawee	Caine Student Center on the Campus of Adrian College, 1325 Willimas St., Adrian, MI 49221	7 PM to 8:30 PM
Thu Apr 16	Lapeer	TBD	7 PM to 9 PM
Sat Apr 18	Genesee	Genesee County Building Third Floor Auditorium 1101 Beach St., Room G-25, Flint, MI 48502	10 AM to 12 PM
Tue Apr 21	Oakland	Farmington Hills City Hall, Council Chambers 31555 W 11 Mile, Farmington Hills, MI 48336	7 PM to 9:30 PM
Thu Apr 30	Oakland	TBD	7 PM to 9:30 PM
Sat May 2	Wayne	Detroit Public Library Main Branch 5201 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI 48202	2 PM to 3:30 PM
Tue May 26	Wayne	Detroit Zoo 8450 W 10 Mile Rd, Royal Oak, MI 48067	6 PM to 8:30 PM



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.



2015-2016 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			
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 6:30 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: March 10, 2016 at 6:30PM
Topic: Yaesu FT-991 Review

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