



## President's Notes for October 2017

By the time you're reading this, the first Great Lakes HamCon will have taken place. I am writing this shortly after returning home from the convention. It was great seeing a number of club members there, including some who were not involved with the VE testing (which we ran). And speaking of the testing, that went very well. If I recall correctly, we minted 12 new Technician and 2 new General class licensees; congratulations to all of them! The venue, Michigan International Speedway, was top-notch, very well suited to hosting a hamfest/convention. There was no mud in the venue! After the heavy storms of Saturday night, though, I'm not sure the same could be said of the campgrounds. My main complaint was that T-Mobile service was non-existent except in the Champions Club high in the tower in the grandstand. The flea market was on the small side; it could have fit in one of the traditional hamfest locations. There's plenty of room for a larger market in future years. The indoor exhibits were also somewhat sparse, although the halls were well equipped to handle them. The forums were definitely interesting and elevated the convention above a standard hamfest. I have no way of knowing if there will be a second HamCon next year, but if there is, and if I'm able to go, I plan on going.

The last month or so has been terrible for tropical weather, with three powerful hurricanes affecting the US or its possessions. Amateur Radio has been proving its value once again, especially in Puerto Rico. There weren't enough hams in Puerto Rico to provide necessary communications support, so in response to a call from the ARRL, fifty hams volunteered to go to the island and provide that support. Hats off to them! And we can help out, too; we can follow the advice of Great Lakes Division vice-director Tom Delaney, W8WTD, and donate to Ham Aid.

Now that the nights are getting longer, we are approaching the time when the ongoing interference issues with the 2-meter repeater may plague us in the morning and evening. There have been some times in recent days when the interference was present during the morning drive. But towards the end of the month, the interference was absent. So were some of the LED lights on the hotel. We will keep everyone informed about the latest developments.

At this month's meeting, Dave, N8HKU, will be presenting the annual Field Day wrap-up. Historically, it's been presented at September's meeting, but as you may recall, the presentations last month were dedicated to August's total solar

eclipse: the club's participation in the SEQP locally, and my experience of totality in Missouri. November's presentation is not yet finalized, but I will likely be speaking about the Volunteer Examiner system. Hope to see you at October's meeting!

73, Roger, KD8CSE



## **Ford Amateur Radio League** (AKA: The Tin Lizzy Club) **Club Meeting Minutes – September 14, 2017**

Meeting Minutes were not available for inclusion on the day of publication of this edition of The Bolt.

## **Red Cross Asks Puerto Rico Amateur Radio Volunteer Team Members to Stay Longer - ARRL**



The American Red Cross (ARC) has extended its invitation for the existing Amateur Radio volunteers in Puerto Rico to extend their stay. Members of the “Force of 50” deployed to Puerto Rico at the beginning of the month, and all are working there as ARC volunteers. ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, KI1U, arrived in Puerto Rico last week to join the cadre of volunteers. Volunteer Val Hotzfeld, NV9L, said the team’s capabilities are becoming known.

She said FEMA aviation and ESF-8 (Health) wanted to confirm that a hospital on Vieques Island needed to have patients evacuated.

“With the help of Rob Landon, KE8AMC, we were able to determine if aviation needed to send an air rescue for dialysis patients to evacuate from Vieques,” she said. “We made their day. They were not aware of our presence and were impressed with our communications capabilities.” Thomas, who has been stationed at the hospital, heard from the hospital administrator that they needed

to evacuate dialysis patients, who require air conditioning that the hospital is unable to provide.

The volunteers have been able to provide help to hospitals on several occasions, this week relaying a request for Culebra Hospital, which reported that a generator fire forced relocation to a nearby clinic. The hospital has requested a new generator. In addition, the team relayed a request from Culebra Hospital that it needs temporary housing from FEMA for necessary staff members who lost their homes in the hurricane.

The team also relayed a message for Hima San Pablo Hospital in Fajardo, which needed specialized IV fluids for a 4-day-old infant.

The volunteer team has been in contact with the US Army and the US Coast Guard contingents in Puerto Rico. “They are very interested in our operation,” Hotzfeld said. “Both branches spent a lot time here learning our system.”

FEMA meanwhile is reporting that showers and thunderstorms in both Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands through Wednesday could produce heavy rainfall, and flash flooding is expected.

FEMA reports that as of October 10, about 19% of cell telephone sites are operational, and 15% of customers have electrical power. FEMA is continuing to conduct a damage assessment and restoration plan. The agency said it has installed more than 50 generators and has nearly 200 on hand with another 365 en route to Puerto Rico.

Today will be the final day of Delta II activation for the International Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network ([SATERN](http://www.saturn.org/)) (<http://www.saturn.org/>) SSB Net on 14.265 MHz. “The Net will have been activated for 22 days — 167 hours — for Hurricane Maria by the time it closes,” National SATERN Liaison Bill Feist, WB8BZH, told ARRL. That does not include all of the days and hours that it was activated for Hurricane Irma and the Solar Eclipse, and the Southern Territory Net activation for Hurricane Harvey — all within a 6-week period.”

Feist said net traffic has “dropped dramatically” in the past few days, and most messages are being handled intra-island on HF or VHF to San Juan, from where they can be delivered by telephone or e-mail. — *Thanks to ARRL Puerto Rico SM Oscar Resto, KP4RF; Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L; ESF-2 Amateur Radio Liaison Gary Sessums, KC5QCN, and National SATERN Liaison Bill Feist, WB8BZH*



## FCC Affirms Huge Fine in New York Interference Case - ARRL

The FCC has affirmed a huge fine of more than \$400,000 on Jay Peralta, a Queens, New York, man who has admitted to making unauthorized transmissions on New York City Police Department (NYPD) radio frequencies, maliciously interfering with officers' communications. The FCC had sent Peralta a *Notice of Apparent Liability (NAL)* ([https://apps.fcgoc.v/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/FCC-17-35A1.pdf](https://apps.fcgoc.v/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-17-35A1.pdf)) last April 14. Peralta, 20, is alleged to have transmitted false bomb threats, false claims of criminal activity involving firearms, false distress calls from purported NYPD officers, and threats against individual NYPD officers. The unauthorized transmissions began in 2016, according to the FCC.

"Mr. Peralta has not filed a response to the *NAL*," the FCC said in an October 10 *Forfeiture Order (FO)* ([https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DOC-347184A1.pdf](https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-347184A1.pdf)). "Based on the information before us, we find no reason to cancel, withdraw, or reduce the proposed penalty, and we therefore assess the \$404,166 forfeiture the Commission previously proposed in the *NAL*."

The FCC has calculated the precise forfeiture at \$404,166.

The FCC said the transmissions occurred from April through August 2016. The NYPD subsequently provided the FCC with a written statement by Peralta, who is currently in custody pending trial for related charges, in which he acknowledged making nine unauthorized transmission on the NYPD radio system, the FCC said.

"If such payment is not received within 30 days, the matter is referred to the Justice Department for collection," the FCC said.

Peralta was arrested last fall along with two other men suspected of committing several robberies. According to news accounts, police found a cache of scanners and radios in one of the suspects' homes.

The FCC said it was alerted by a Twitter post about an unlawful intrusion on the NYPD radio system and dispatched an Enforcement Bureau agent to check it out. On September 30, 2016, the NYPD contacted the FCC's New York Office and advised that it had arrested Peralta and another individual in connection with unauthorized transmissions on NYPD's radio system. According to police reports, the other individual arrested — Ricardo Torres, 29, described as "a ham radio enthusiast" in some news accounts — allegedly provided the radios used.

Torres, is said to hold an FCC General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) license. Police said they found 15 portable radios, 9 scanners, roof-top antennas, an amplifier, and assorted other electronics in Torres's apartment.



## 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.



## 2017-2018 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](http://www.k8utt.org) for current events and activities.

<b>President</b>	Roger Reini	KD8CSE	734-728-1509
<b>Vice President</b>	Tye Winkel	KC8YEJ	313-805-8294
<b>Treasurer</b>	Pat Quinn	WD8JDZ	734-729-1993
<b>Secretary</b>	Mac Lunn	KD8TPO	313-805-0427
<b>Repeater Chair</b>	Murray Scott	KE8UM	248-743-1704
<b>K8UTT Trustee</b>	Dave Treharne	N8HKU	734-476-1666
<b>Activity Chair</b>	Bill Boyke	N80ZV	313-805-8877
<b>Bolt Editor</b>	Rajiv Paul	KD8LHF	313-244-2515
<b>Historian</b>	Tye Winkel	KC8YEJ	313-805-8294



## 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: October 12, 2017 at 6:00PM**  
**Topic: Field Day Wrap-up, Dave, N8HKU**

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