

The Bolt

The Official Publication of the Ford Amateur Radio League

President's Note - January/February, 2007 Combined

Happy New Year!

Repeater Items:

Our 2 meter repeater is up and running very well, now. We have heard it being able to be keyed up from Troy, Auburn Hills, Monroe, and even from Toledo. A Thank You to Murray, KE8UM, for getting it all repaired, tuned up, and ready to go again. It is very nice to be able to hear and reach it from my home in Ypsilanti. In fact, I am able to reach the repeater from Ypsilanti Township on only 3 watts into a Ringo Ranger II antenna at about 13 feet. I have no idea if this will still work next spring when the leaves are back on the trees, but it seems to work right now.

With the restoration of the 2 meter repeater, we have begun the Sunday night 2m nets on the repeater. This was something we wanted to do since last year, but we needed the repeater in full form in order to make this happen. Please join us at 8pm on Sundays!

The FARL gave the children at Mott's Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor an opportunity to speak to Santa Claus at the North Pole again this year. Santa and his Elves descended upon the hospital this year on December 6th, and took the Christmas wishes of all the children who wished to speak to Santa. Thank you to Bill, N8OZV, for organizing the event. Thank you to our Elves, and our two Santas! See an additional article from Bill here in the Bolt.

The Tin Lizzy Christmas party was successfully held this year at the Mexican Fiesta Restaurant. We had a very good showing, and the food was tasty. Thank you to Bill, WA8HEA, for printing out some award certificates to hand out.

During our last club meeting, we discussed our 2007 club calendar, and are still looking for club input on the types of activities we want. If you have any kind of discussion or topic to share at a club meeting, please let me know. We enjoy hearing club members present, whether the topic be large or small! Please see the Club Calendar on the club website at www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/Hall/2183/ to see the latest calendar.

I have read the Report and Order from the FCC that has eliminated the Morse code requirement from the licenses. It has not appeared in the Federal Register as far as I know yet, but it will be effective starting 30 days from that point. We did not see this listed as of mid January, so it looks like it will be March before it gets official. If you were having trouble upgrading your license due to the code requirement, now is your big chance to upgrade! Also, congratulations to Ivan, N8AMT, for upgrading to Extra during January!

We have our conference call now set up for the club meetings. Ivan was the first user of the conference call during our November meeting, and he seemed to be able to hear us well enough. He even listened in on the presentation, which was presented on screen for those who were in the room. Ralph Chrysler was our second conferee during our January meeting, and we enjoyed hearing from him! Thank you to Bill, N8OZV, for finding the equipment to make this happen. If you are feeling ill, or the weather is not making for a comfortable drive, please feel free to dial in. Our conference call number is 313-323-6737. You will be asked for a passcode. Enter 19153130# to join on the call. If you hear music, we have not joined in, yet.

Club topic for February: We will review the PEAC bike ride, including video of the event. FARL has supported this event for years by providing communications to the rest stops and to the sag wagons. We will have a special guest to present this interesting topic, Erin, who has helped run the bike ride event for a number of years. Please plan on attending!

Website Note: I have placed the club equipment inventory on the club website, for all to see. If you need to borrow something, please let us know. If you have a piece of club equipment or wish to donate something, please let any Board member know as well. Thank you for all the donations we have, and thank you to all those who store the equipment for us!

73,

Dave (N8HKU), FARL Club President

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FARL Minutes from Jan 11, 2007

- The meeting was called to order by president Vice President Dave Treharne (N8HKU)
- The minutes of the November meeting, read by Vice President Dave Treharne (N8HKU) and were modified as follows: -Minutes heading and date were changed to read November instead of October.
- Minutes were accepted unanimously as modified. The motion was made by Ivan Love (N8AMT) and seconded by Bob Richards (N8JUH).
- The Treasurers Report from Pat Quinn (WD8JDZ) was read and approved.
- Bill Boyke (N8OZV) presented the club with a check for \$91.25 from FERA.
- Repeater report: The 2 meter repeater is up and running. The 220 machine is up and running. The 440 machine is up and running. Bob Krause (N8BK) has retired from Ford and is still the owner of the 440 MHz repeater under our call
- The website is up and running
- Rusty (N8RGI) had problems with his computer again so the newsletter was not published by the time of the meeting. Bill Boyke (N8OZV) will work with Rusty to see what can be done with Rusty's computer and get the newsletter out as soon as he can.
- The Club Christmas dinner was discussed. The people at the dinner liked the place but there were complaints from some that they didn't like it. More discussion will follow before the next Christmas dinner.
- It was decided that we would not get tables at the Genessee County Swap or the Hazel Park Swap which are coming up shortly.
- An announcement was made that there will be a club net on the club repeater on Sundays starting Jan. 14 @ 8:00 PM. We may have Morse Code Practice sessions on the repeater during the net.
- The upcoming year's club calendar was discussed.
- A new chair is required for Field Day this year. Both Dave and Bill will be out of town so someone else will have to take over. No takers at this time. If anyone is interested please contact Dave Treharne (N8HKU) at (734)476-1666 or dtreharn@umich.edu. If you call and no one answers please leave a message and he will get back to you.
- A short break was taken and then a program was presented, by Dave Treharne, on acceptable net procedures.
- Six members were present at the meeting and Ralph Chrysler called in for a while.
- The meeting was closed at 8:30 PM. Minutes submitted by Pat Quinn (WD8JDZ)

President's Note - March, 2007

Welcome to what is hopefully the last month of winter! From a relatively mild start, we sure have been in the deep freeze this past month of February. It has been a good time to snuggle down with the HF rig in the basement, keeping warm by working various contests. Although I have a solid state rig, chasing DX during the RTTY contest in early February was certainly fun. I even managed to hop the pond to Europe on 40 meters for several contacts, in spite of my G5RV antenna being only 12 meters off of the ground at the center.

Congratulations to Murray Scott, KE8UM, on his retirement from Ford at the end of February. I hope that you have a healthy and long retirement. I think Murray has several projects to accomplish, and good luck in finding the time to do them! The retuning of the 220 MHz repeater duplexer is reported to be high on his list. Murray has that down, as its sensitivity has been confirmed to be greatly diminished.

The Ford Amateur Radio League, the Tin Lizzy Club, has documented evidence of being in existence since 1956. We originally found documentation back to 1957, but Bill WA8HEA has found evidence of the club actually being organized one year earlier. We had tentatively planned for the club to celebrate its 50th anniversary this year. Now, with the new club start date, we are celebrating our 50+ years of existence. In commemoration of this event, we wish to put together a Special Event Station this summer. We need to decide a date so we can get this published in QST. We plan on using our stock of original QSL cards to commemorate this event. We are looking for a public place to hold the event during the summer, and are soliciting ideas. Please let us know your thoughts about time and place for the March meeting!

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Our schedule meeting topic for this month is news about the Oscar satellites, led by Bill, WA8HEA. Please join us for the meeting! We also need to begin nominations for club offices for our April club elections. Please volunteer to support our club.

Finally, now is a great time to welcome new people into our hobby, and to upgrade licenses for existing hams. The morse code requirement has been eliminated as of February 23rd, which eliminates a barrier that I know several people had a real problem with. I look forward to the continued development and evolution of amateur radio here in the 21st century.

73,

David Treharne (N8HKU), FARL Club President

Minutes from the February 8th, 2007 FARL Meeting

- The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by President Dave Treharne (N8HKU). The minutes from the January club meeting as taken by Pat Quinn (WD8JDZ) were presented and approved. The treasurer's report was provided by Pat Quinn and also approved. The conference call-in number was accessed however no one dialed in during the meeting.
- Dave reported that the club had sent flowers to the funeral home for club member Gerry Trimble (WD8QVY-SK). Dave was also accepting donations that would be sent to the ARRL per the family's request.
- Dave has updated the club equipment on the club website www.geocities.com/capecanaverall/hall/2183/. This equipment may be loaned out by contacting the person who is currently shown as the custodian for that piece of gear. Dave also updated the club calendar on the website.
- The 220 Mhz repeater has been removed for repairs by Murray Scott (KE8UM). Murray will notify the club when the repeater is back on the air. The 2 meter and 70 cm repeaters are fully operational.
- The club discussed having radio classes this year. Bill Boyke (N8OZV) will be contacted for further plans.
- A suggestion was made to use an e-mail or web based club newsletter. The topic was discussed and the decision was made to continue the paper newsletter since all members do not have Internet access. The BOLT will be produced by Bill Brezina (WA8HEA) for the next 2 months while Rusty Eizen (K8RGL) gets his computer equipment updated. The March issue will cover January & February input.
- The FARL PO Box has been paid for another year and Bill Brezina will check it monthly for mail.
- Bill Brezina asked for assistance from the FARL Board to go through archive files to reduce the number of documents and papers. He will schedule a date and time for this review.
- Dave announced that the club has a net each Sunday at 8 PM local time on the 2 meter repeater (145.270 Mhz). Net topics are open. The repeater may be used for code practice if there is enough interest.
- Dave asked for volunteers to chair the 2007 Field Day committee. Anyone interested should contact Dave.
- Bill Brezina suggested the club operate a special event station to celebrate the 50+ years of service. Bill offered to coordinate the event with the following guidelines: public location, July – August timeframe, Saturday or weekend, social event/picnic, ask the Livonia Amateur Radio Club (LARC) to participate.
- A short break with refreshments preceded a presentation by PEAC www.bikeprogram.org (Programs to Educate All Cyclists). The club supports the annual PEAC Bike Ride with communications and SAG wagon drivers/riders/vehicles.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM. These minutes were recorded by Bill Brezina (WA8HEA).

Club Meeting Information

The Ford Amateur Radio Club meets the 2nd Thursday of each month, except for Christmas and the summer months (July & August). The meetings are held at 7 PM at the Ford Engine Manufacturing & Development Offices (EMDO) building. EMDO is located at 17000 Southfield Rd, Allen Park, MI, on the east side of

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Southfield just north of the Allen Park Municipal offices. Park in the front of the building and come to the front door near the flagpole. Knock on the door if no one is standing there to let you in.

Members who cannot make it to EMDO due to illness or other travel limitations may use a dial-in number (313-323-6737; passcode 19153130#) to participate in a conference call.

Meeting agendas start with club business items followed by a short break. Presentations on selected ham radio topics of interest are given after the break. Anyone wishing to present a topic can contact Dave Treharne (N8HKU) or Bill Brezina (WA8HEA). Topics scheduled for the next few months include:

- March OSCAR Satellite Updates. Latest AMSAT <http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/index.php> info and what's going on in the Heavens Above www.heavens-above.com .
- April Election of Club Officers
- May Green (Military) Radios. The AN/PRC-47, 2-12 Mhz, SSB/CW Transceiver. Also Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Days (ARMAD), May 26th – 28th, 2007. See <http://www.armad.net/index.htm>.

Club Repeater Information

The Ford Amateur Radio League operates 3 repeaters under the K8UTT call. The repeaters are located in the Dearborn, MI, area and are open for members and guests to operate. Phone line access is permitted to club members with touch tone dial capability and the auto patch code. The club operates a net on the 2 Meter repeater every Sunday evening at 8 PM local time. Please contact the following people if there is any problem with a repeater listed below:

<u>Band</u>	<u>Output</u>	<u>Input</u>	<u>PL Freq</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>
2 Meters	145.270 Mhz	144.670 Mhz	100 Hz	Dave Treharne	734-476-1666
1.25 Meters	224.520 Mhz		100 Hz	Murray Scott	248-734-1704
70 CM	443.425 Mhz		107.2 Hz	Bob Krause	248-437-6634

2006-2007 Club Officers

Please contact any of the officers for information regarding the Ford Amateur Radio League, or go to the club website at www.geocities.com/capecanaveral/hall/2183/ for current events and activities.

President	Dave Treharne	N8HKU	734-476-1666
Vice President	Bill Brezina	WA8HEA	313-563-2905
Treasurer	Pat Quinn	WD8JDZ	734-729-1993
Recording Secretary	Rod Deyo	K8SGL	734-595-7427
Repeater Chair	Murray Scott	KE8UM	248-743-1704
K8UTT Trustee	Dave Treharne	N8HKU	734-476-1666

Just a reminder that nominations for the 2007-2007 club officers will be held in March and April, and the election of new officers will take place at the April club meeting.

Ham Radio at Michigan Scout Camporee

The Club recently loaned our Kenwood TS-930 transceiver to Ron Bush, Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 499 in Redford. We weren't able to find anyone to operate the station for the outing because of the late request but here is a note from Ron about the event. P.S. Ron is a former ham. Maybe we can get him into the club...if he can find the time.

My sincerest THANKS to the club for the tremendous support given to me at such a short notice. Bill gave me a Kenwood transceiver and 40 meter whip antenna, which I clamped to our portable garage enclosure, and everything worked flawlessly! The scouts were excited upon hearing people from Texas, Louisiana, SWEDEN, etc. Many were surprised you could even "chat" to others without a computer! I explained the

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differences between the radio's they had in 1957, the one I used today, and the cell phone I had in my pocket. All in all - GREAT!

I would like to explain a bit about the campout. The Theme was World Jamborees, a gathering of scouts from around the world. The first one was held in 1907 in Sutton England by Lord Baden Powell, who founded the BSA. The jamborees were held in different countries every four years, except for the war years. 1957 was held in England to celebrate the 50th anniversary of scouting. Our troop chose this jamboree to display. The boys set up games, like cricket, darts, and conkers, with cricket the big hit of the day. In the portable garage, they cooked and served English foods like black pudding (blood sausage) and scrambled eggs, breakfast, tea and crumpets, hot off the grill, bangers and mash (a sausage similar to pork sausage and mash potatoes), and fish and chips! The corner of the tent held the radio station to display JOTA or jamboree around the world, one of the biggest things that took place in 1957, and is still held annually. There were 15 troops participating in this camporee (a small version of a Jamboree), and about 200 scouts came by to take part in our English station, each a group of 6 to 8 boys, spending about 10 - 15 minutes learning and enjoying. It was a great time for all.

Thank you.

Ron Bush, Scoutmaster
Troop 499 Redford, Mi.

Gerald Edward Trimble Sr. WD8QVY --SK

Trimble, Gerald Edward Sr. of Dearborn, Age 87, passed away under the care of Hospice, January 28, 2007.

Beloved husband of the late Mildred, loving father of Louise (Yvon) Gomez, Maureen Forbes, Marilyn Burkett, Nancy Williams, and Gerald E. (Kay) Trimble Jr KG8HZ. Loving and proud Grandfather of eight and Great-grandfather of four. Dearest brother of Thelma MacAndrew.

Graduate of Henry Ford Trade School of Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Retired after thirty-six years of loyal service with Ford Motor Company. Former Treasurer and Active member of the Ford Amateur Radio Club of Dearborn, Michigan.



Memorial contributions may be made to ARRL Foundation- General Fund (225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111-1494).

Gerry was active in many activities of the FARL, from Field Day, to multiple terms of various offices especially as treasurer, to our annual Speaking with Santa Activity at Mott's Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, MI. His wife Mildred, Millie to her many friends, used her prodigious sewing talents to create the elf costumes used to this day, which Gerry and the rest of the club put to good use.

The FARL Bolt was ably labeled and stapled by Gerry for many years up to the end. He would then get them mail out until security at Ford was tightened. The Ford Mail room still remembers him and Millie's fresh backed cookies.

Gerry's call sign is not expected to lie fallow for long. His grandson, Gerry, is taking Amateur Radio Classes at Henry Ford Community College and intends to request his grandfather's call sign upon passage. We hope to hear WD8QVY back on the Tin Lizzy Repeater as soon as possible.

We will be passing the hat at the next Tin Lizzy meeting for a group donation to the ARRL as requested by his family.

73 Gerry, We are all going to miss you.

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