

RRA Meeting April 11th, 2017

Attending: N8MRC Mike, AC8NI Tim, KD8LZS Brian, K8DC Jay, W8WDW Del, NE8E Scott, KD8TOV Bob, N8FAU Bob

- Pre-meeting: Antenna and grounding connections installed / Repair session on the club's IC-746pro...surface mount component R&R
- Meeting opened by Mike N8MRC @ 7:03pm
- Secretary-Treasurer's Report (AC8NI):
 - \$1,037.02 in checking with \$0 Cash-on-hand.
 - “Contact Us” and “VE Testing” web pages re-built with automated email forms, on our website. Also, number of articles showing on main web page limited to two, in order to make bottom-of-page content more readily accessible.
 - March minutes reviewed. Comment that if we want to use “You Tube” videos for pre-meeting training, they must be downloaded prior to showing, because the school's content filter blocks them.
 - There are (3) possibilities for our 2017 ARRL Field Day location.
 - Ionia Aviation Academy
 - Ionia State Recreation Area
 - Saranac Community Schools
- Club antennas (N8MRC): Pending upon email to Superintendent Geiger.(cc Jason Smith)
- MiSPOTA Update (KD8LZS): Brian will check to see if we can have field day at the recreation area. There is a concern about the limitations that will be placed on our antenna installations, however. As we are the official sponsor of Ionia State Recreation Area, this remains our preferred location.
- Club logo (AC8NI): We should come up with something. Send comments and ideas and samples to AC8NI (timjurmo@yahoo.com).
- Progress report on IC-746Pro (NE8E and K8DC): Components have been removed & replaced. One of two mods have been applied. We will hold off on 2nd mod, as consensus is that it is unnecessary. Re-assembly and testing are next.

- WION tour (N8MRC):
 - No new information
 - NE8E re-initiate contact with Jim
 - Discussion on best time for a visit: anytime... not during the day... Saturday afternoon with dinner afterward
 - WION location: 1150 Haynor

- Feed through panel update (AC8NI): We now have 4 coax bulkhead connectors installed along with a ground passthrough to an 8' groundrod.

- NEW BUSINESS:
 - Michigan QSO party this weekend
 - We can join at N8MRC Mike's
 - 2 stations noon Saturday 'til midnight
 - No beans & wipe your feet
 - Address is 136 Washington, Saranac
 - N8FAU Bob presented attending club members with an opportunity to join a project to potentially provide the amateur radio community with a new UHF repeater with a county-wide footprint. Bob has identified a source for a 100w commercial repeater chassis. The unit would require re-tuning to an amateur frequency (if possible), a controller and cavity filters. Bob would need help with the project in the way of manpower and funding. In addition, there is a consideration regarding frequency coordination. Please contact N8FAU if you have interest in this potential benefit for our community. We will send out an email to the club list with this information.

- Our next meeting..
 - ..will be held at Saranac Community Elementary School on Tuesday May 9th
 - 6:00pm pre-meeting activity which will be a presentation on The Salvation Army's Emergency Disaster Services and SATERN programs
 - 7:00pm by our monthly business meeting. WITH homemade cookies courtesy of N8MRC's Mom!

- Meeting adjourned by N8MRC @ 8:15pm.