

RRA Meeting November 8th, 2016

Sign-in: AC8NI, N8MRC, KD8WZH, KD8HNF, KD8LZS, NE8E, K8DC, AB8KP, W8WDW

1. Welcome and introduce new members: Meeting opened @ 7:05p by N8MRC.
2. A quick review of last month's minutes.
3. Secretary-Treasurer's report: Checking account balance is \$1,036.58 and we have \$ zero cash-on-hand. Club picture is in the rotating header on the website. Changes in club meeting time also reflected on the website. Change in annual dues reflected on the website as well. Last meetings minutes posted on website.
4. Network access point has been donated to the club. It is up and operational. We will keep the access point in our storage lockers at the school and plug it in for every meeting. Your wireless phones and computing devices will be able to access the Internet at the meeting.
5. Request out to membership for donated tools to remain on-site in a locked locker. N8MRC had donated a soldering pencil and K8DC brought in a tool box with some small hand tools. Good start! THANK YOU.
6. Progress report on status of the club's Icom IC-746 Pro... (Nothing of \$50 allotment toward repair spent so far) – Parts ordered but not in yet. Took 746 apart and removed board that needs work on it. The power supply is a total loss and will be replaced by N8MRC and NE8E. Scott will strip the old PS and retrieve any useful pieces parts! THANK YOU ;-)
7. MiSPOTA update from KD8LZS. Brian re-applied / registered on the MiSPOTA Facebook site (now a closed group). As the program is still in its planning and infancy stages, we are in a bit of holding pattern. Brian says it sounds like local state park people don't know anything about this program yet. Brian had one of the “head guys” relay our interest Sessions. K8DC visited Sessions last week and was looking at the two modern cabins. It looks like they may be a good site of operations for our club activities. Jay

suggested we might want to rent the cabins for field day 2017. Brian will check feasibility on use of cabins/sessions for by the RRA for field day, etc. N8MRC thought that if we moved field day operations to the state park the the increased exposure to the public would warrant assigning Public Information Officer duties, to possibly man a table with ARRL & Club handouts, etc.

8. Update on WION tour: N8MRC will get with Jim to get a time and date for a club visit / tour / dinner outing. THANKS MIKE
9. Discussion on antenna moves: N8MRC is in charge of retrieving our OCF 160-10m wire antenna and the dual band vertical from the tech building site. K8DC has volunteered to help by climbing the 60' tower to get the 160m OCF antenna. Thanks guys for volunteering your services.
10. HEADS UP: The Michigan Regional SATERN Net is conducted each Thursday evening at 8:00pm Michigan time, on 3.820MHz. Clubs affiliated with the SATERN program and supported by The Salvation Army's Emergency Disaster Services unit, are encouraged to check-in and share news and announcements. If you can make the net, check in under the club affiliate call during the preamble.
11. HEADS UP: Our annual February Family Dinner will be held at the Lamplight Grill in Ionia, 314 Main Street; February 12th at 3:00pm. Good buffet! Bring the family!!
12. AB8KP is in charge of getting the club's storage lockers repaired. Thanks Gene!
13. NEWS ITEM: W8WDW Del and K8DC Jay worked the Scout Jamboree on the Air and made 150-200 contacts at Berlin Raceway; introducing 50 participants, mostly scouts, to amateur radio.
14. Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm by N8MRC. – Next meeting will be: Tuesday December 13th.