



QRM

The Official Newsletter of GRARA
The Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association

Volume 3 Summer 2020

Packet .07, Repeaters 146.760, 147.260 440.400

Support the



American
Red Cross



WWW.ARRL.ORG

YES! Full steam ahead for FIELD DAY 2020. Below is the information about how to get to the site and the other club's that use the site.

The field is used by the Wolverine Skyhawks Model Aviation Club who I would assume had the mini airstrip installed. The GRARA Field Day is listed on their events calendar.

<https://www.wolverineskyhawks.com/functions>

Also scheduled at the site during FD weekend, Friday and Saturday: Walter RC-Helifest, Saturday and Sunday: Baldwin-Pylon Race.

Below is a map to the location.

<https://goo.gl/maps/UYLb2c2AzA7TLiae9>

West Street is between US131 and Northland Dr (Old 131) heading south of 17 Mile Rd. At the end of West St is the field.

I don't see an issue with social distancing in this outdoor venue.

The other piece is how many guys will feel comfortable being out

During this Corvid-19 Virus. A lot of our members are older and they may feel they need to self-quarantine for a while yet and would not be available to help. I, Jim K8JH, would be willing to set up the Ham Van as a single station if we wanted to reduce the size of our operation. Everyone who would want to operate would be welcome of course. We could reduce our operation from 4 to 2, if we have fewer operators. It would be helpful if we had an idea of how many operators we'll have. Perhaps we could come up with a schedule of who's working what band?

Let's not forget we could have visitors show up. Have our Face Masks ready. Might be a good idea to bring extra masks.

This could all be worked out during this coming week. Like what equipment we will be operating, antennas, food, etc. Tom Hansen N8DGD is heading this FD, if you have any suggestions, let him know.

(The following contributed to this article: Jim K8JH, Tom N8DGD, Jack NY8D)

QRM

The QRM Newsletter is published quarterly. It is the official journal of the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association. GRARA is an American Radio Relay League affiliated club.

You may freely reprint any material in the QRM, but please credit the QRM, the original author, and the original publication, if given.

Everybody is encouraged to submit original articles on topics relevant to the hobby of Amateur Radio. Submit articles to the Editor, care of scooter1cat@comcast.net.

2020 GRARA Officers

President - Thom Durfee - KI8W

Vice-President - Jim Hessler- K8JH

Secretary – Greg Stroke KN4CK

Treasurer -Steven B Hauelsen- KD8MEY

On Air Director – Tom Hansen N8DGD

Off Air Director - Ron Fredricks - K8DMR

Red Cross Liaison – Joe Bell WD8USA

Member at Large – Chris Longscore KE8LQH

Technical Director - Steve Provost - AC8QE

Webmaster –Thom Durfee KI8W

Station Trustee - Tom Hansen N8DGD

Publisher

The Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association.
PO Box 3282; Grand Rapids, MI 49501-3282 Visit our website- <http://www.w8dc.org>
E-mail us at- **president@w8dc.org**

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Membership Information

Anybody interested in the exciting hobby of Amateur Radio is invited to join the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association. There are four classes of membership:

Full Membership: Full membership costs \$25/year and is open to licensed Amateur Radio operators. Full members may run for a GRARA elected officer position and may vote on Club business.

Spouse/Family Membership: One spouse or an immediate adult family member of a Full member may apply for Spouse/Family membership at no cost. A member of this type, who is a licensed Amateur Radio operator, has all of the privileges of a Full member.

Senior Membership: Dues for members 70 and over are \$15/year. Senior members have the same privileges as Full members.

Youth Membership: A licensed Amateur Radio operator under the age of 18 years old may apply for Youth membership at no cost. Youth members have all of the privileges of Full members, except they may not run for the elected positions of President, Vice President, or Treasurer.

New Ham Membership: A newly licensed Amateur Radio operator may apply for New Ham membership at no cost. A New Ham member has all of the privileges of a Full member. Free New Ham membership lasts 12 months. Associate Membership: A non-licensed individual may apply for Associate membership. Adult Associate memberships cost \$25/year. Associate members may not vote and may not hold office.

VE Exams are Back!

Amateur Radio License testing will be offered by the club Friday evening 07/10/20. It will be outdoors. The location is the Red Cross Building at 1050 Fuller NE, Grand Rapids MI

We will be conducting the tests in the parking lot.

Testing will start at 630pm.

You can register on our website:

<http://w8dc.org/pages/exams.html>

Please ignore the covid statement, since we are doing the testing outside.

We will be following CDC guidelines for covid.

Thus, we ask that you be in your car to take the test.

Please park with an empty parking spot between you and the next car.

We will provide a clip board and a pencil for the test.

I will have a person go from car to car handing out and picking up test booklets and score sheets.

Please let others know about this testing session.

Thanks

GRARA VE Team!

On June 12, we held our first VE Exam session since March.

We had 9 people take the test, 7 of them got at least one level up from where they were. We got 3 New Extras out of the 7. One gent passed all 3 exams!

"Congratulations" to all who upgraded during this past session.

IRA OPEN HOUSE & SITE CLEANUP,

Saturday, September 26, 9AM to

Alternate inclement weather day

Saturday, October 3

The Independent Repeater Association (IRA) W8IRA is doing Open House and cleanup at the 92nd Street Hill repeater site.

This site hosts many other Amateur Radio groups' equipment as well.

If you have never set foot on the hill or its been a while, this is a great time to get a tour of the place. We will be showing off the (not fancy) place as well as doing some tidying up inside and out.

DO NOT FEEL ANY OBLIGATION TO PARTAKE IN CLEANUP. We look forward to your company. Arrive when you can, leave when you want to.

We'll have coffee, donuts, and for lunch, burgers and dog, all free.

Talk-in (as you can guess) 147.16-(94.8Hz) 566 92nd St SE, Byron Center, MI 49315

Lat 42.796779, long -85.650055 Map:

<http://w8ira.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1764710107178775/>

Contact ny8d@arrl.net (616)438-1464

73 Jack NY8D



All: I received this from Nicole Pribbernow. Nicole is the Regional Direct Services Support Manager. Which covers a lot of fun stuff!

So basically.. This email explains a little about the transition from NSS (National Shelter System) to RC View and the new version of NSS. I took one of the classes today on how to survey a shelter and I am seriously impressed.

So, with that being said. If you had NSS access previously. You will need to take the training on the new system to retain access to this data.

If you are willing to help do shelter surveys. (We have a LOT of shelters that need to be updated) You need to take basic and surveyor training. I promise you it's worth it!

West Michigan is in need of a shelter lead as well as a lead for keeping track of shelter updates and making sure teams are trained as well as going out and updating our shelters throughout our 12 counties. I know some folks have already been working with Justin and Kim to do the updates.. We really need folks to take this on as a long term project for the chapter.

So.. With that being said. If you have an interest email me directly. If you take the training. Email a copy of the certificate to Nicole and me. Her

email is listed at the bottom of this email.

If you have any questions please reach out to me directly. Nicole is still working on DR377-20 and is not available for general questions at the moment.

Thank You all!

Jeffrey Nawrot jeffrey.nawrot@redcross.org

Good morning team,

As some of you may be aware, we will be transitioning our NSS platform over to RCView in the coming weeks. This new platform will be more user friendly, incorporates better mapping abilities, and allows for better connections to already establishing systems. Currently, the new system in RCView will go live on August 1, 2020. On this date, all of our current active data in NSS will be transferred over to the new system. The only thing that will not transfer over are any attachments (floor plans, survey€™s, agreements, etc.). If your chapter has worked to ensure there are attachments with your survey locations, please work towards downloading those documents and prepare to upload them individually into the new system. The old NSS system will remain active for use until August 1st and will remain available for reference until our contract ends December 31, 2020.

Please take a look at the attached outline of classes that are currently available on EDGE (Microsoft Teams classes) and please share this with your chapter NSS and sheltering

Not all heroes wear capes.



Celebrate Red Cross Month.
Be a hero and donate today!

Teams. I encourage everyone to take the classes they feel are appropriate for their level of work within the system before August 1st. There are more access levels than the previous system but each is described for who the main audience should be.

Once you or your team have completed courses and would like access to the system, please be sure to email me the training certification so that I can approve the access level.

If you have any questions or concern, please don't hesitate to reach out to me! **Nicole Pribbernow**

Nicole.Pribbernow3@redcross.org

Please add to the discussion at
http://volunteerconnection.redcross.org/?nd=m_gs_thread_v25&thread_id=168770&psvalue1=6788&group_id=6788

Attachment:

<https://volunteerconnection.redcross.org/ama/orig/emails/206/632/NSS-Training-Courses-Overview.pdf>

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GRARA Member News

It's been a long 4 months. The club tried to hold the June General Business meeting in the Red Cross parking lot. It was a success! Our first meeting since March. The VE team held the first VE Exam last Friday. It also was a success. When people get motivated, nothing is impossible. We're now planning on Field Day 2020. Something we wouldn't even have thought possible one month ago. In the face of adversity, desire over comes all obstacles. Our members can also accomplish great achievements in this pandemic era.



Dave DeVos, KF8QL, above, pictured with his "Rover" vehicle. Dave, who was elected President of the Michigan VHF-UHF Society club, has always been fascinated with the "Higher" Frequencies. His "Rover" can operate anywhere from 50 Mg to 10 Gigs. He just got through a fun filled weekend with the June VHF Contest. He has always invited people to join in the contest fun.



GRAHamfest 2020

Grand Rapids Area Hamfest
Saturday, September 12th
 an ARRL Approved Hamfest

Annual Electronics, Ham Radio, Shortwave
 CB and Computer Equipment, Trains, Airplanes
or just about anything with an electron in it!
 Swap Meet / Flea Market

Opens at 8 AM

Ends at 1:00 PM

Seller Setup: Friday 7- 9PM, & Saturday 7AM

(Vendors only prior to 8AM)
 Indoor and Outdoor Sales

Laurel VE Session - 10AM

Concessions provided on-site

Admission: \$6 at the door

**K-12 students free admission
 with student ID**

See: www.w8dc.org

for updates and
 any additional information.

The Home School Building
5625 Burlingame, SW
Wyoming, MI 49509-9702

General Questions:

stprovost@provtechs.com

Table Reservations:

stprovost@provtechs.co

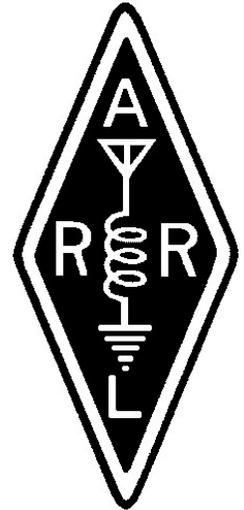
Deadline for advance paid
 reservations: August 29th
 Make checks payable to:
 G.R.A.R.A.

Tables unclaimed after 8 AM are
 available on a first-come basis!

No refunds for unclaimed tables!

Reservation form and payment to:

Stephen Provost AC8QE
 6845 kuttshills Dr NE
 Rockford MI 49341



Talk-In: W8DC on 147.26+ (94.8HZ PL)

Table Reservation Form

Description	Qty.	Ext. amount
6' table along wall* (<i>check for availability—limited quantity</i>) @ \$12		
6' table (middle of the gym) @ \$10		
Total	—	

* *Only wall tables have access to electricity.* Table rental does *not* include admission to the swap. No charge for tailgate spaces, except a hamfest admission ticket is required for each person.

Name / Callsign

Phone (optional)

Email (req'd for table confirmation)

Address (optional)

City, State, Zip (optional)

See other side for map & directions

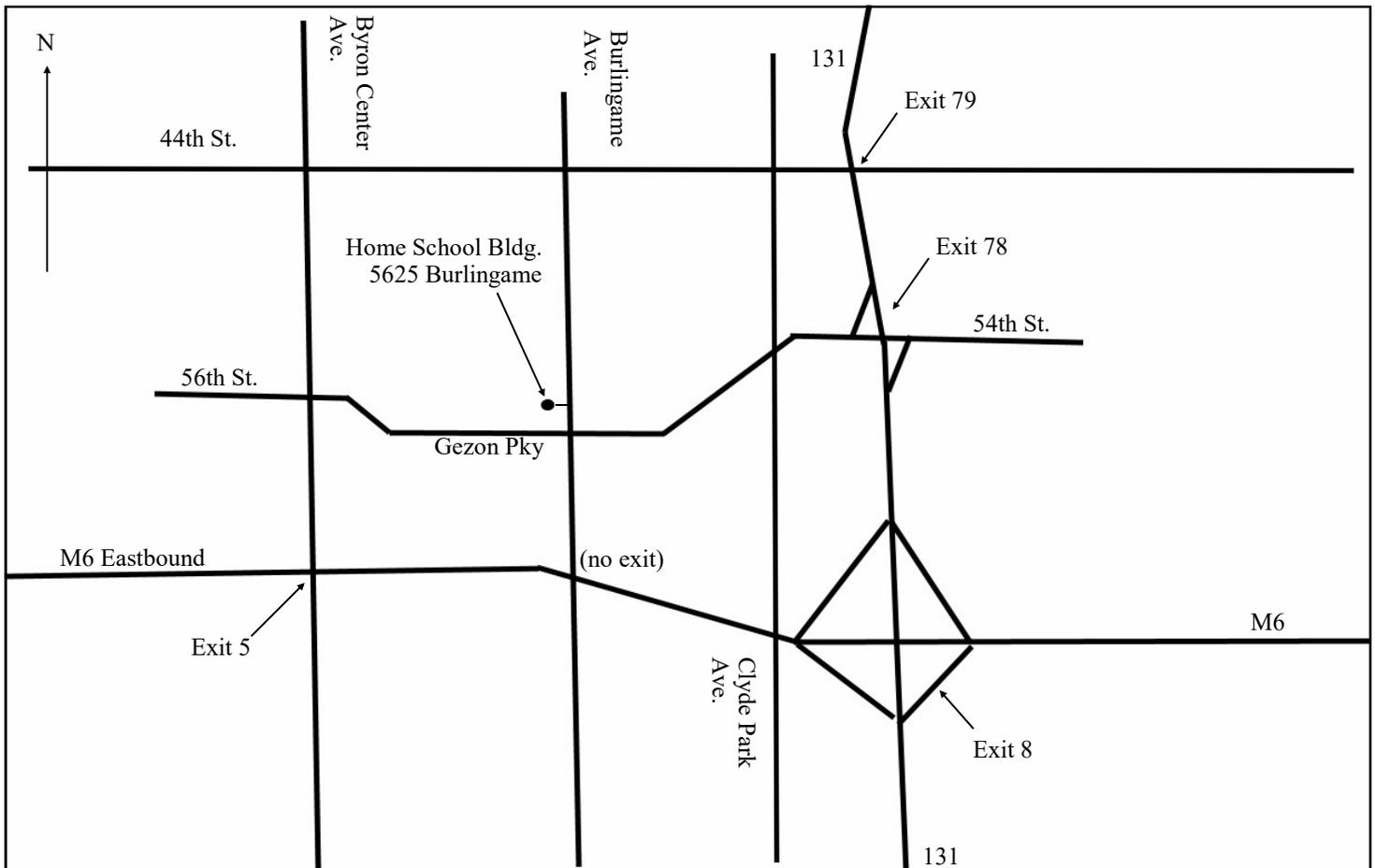
GRAHamfest directions

From the West:

Take M6 East / Lansing to exit 5 / Byron Center Ave. Turn left onto Byron Center Ave., drive 0.8 mi. Turn right onto Gezon Parkway, Drive 1.0 mi. Turn left onto Burlingame Ave. Turn left into the Home School Building.

From the North:

Take 131 South, to exit 78 / 54th St. Turn right onto 54th St. (turns into Gezon Pkwy) Drive 1.1 mi. Turn right onto Burlingame Ave. Turn left into the Home School Building.



From the East:

Take M6 West / Holland to exit 8, 131 North. Drive 1.3 mi. to exit 78 / 54th St. Turn left onto 54th St. (turns into Gezon Pkwy) Drive 1.1 mi. Turn right onto Burlingame Ave. Turn left into the Home School Building.

From the South:

Take 131 North to exit 78 / 54th St. Turn left onto 54th St. (turns into Gezon Pkwy) Drive 1.1 mi. Turn right onto Burlingame Ave. Turn left into the Home School Building.

Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association Inc.

Membership Application

Please fill in the required information and send the form with your payment to

Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association Inc.

P.O. Box 3282

Grand Rapids, MI 49501-3282

Or simply bring it to our Wednesday night Open Radio Room or our General Meeting.

Name: _____ Call: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Membership Type:

Memberships run January to December of each year

Full(\$25)

Spouse/Family(free) Call of Full Member: _____

New Ham (free for 1 year) Month joined: _____

Youth (free under 18)

Associate (\$25) Non-voting/officer membership non-ham

Over 70 (\$15) Reduced rate for our senior members

ARRL Member: Yes No Type: Regular Life

Would you like a callsign@w8dc.org email alias: Yes No

Email address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____