Club Tee Shirt Pre Orders

Russ N8RSH is working on a tee shirt & hoodie order with the club logo on it. He will be taking orders at the March, April, May club meetings. After the May club meeting he will turn the order in. We should have the tee shirts back for the June club meeting.

There are two colors available at this time in the tee shirt and hoodie.

Royal Blue & Red

Here is what the design looks like on a shirt. The front logo is 3.5 inches and the back logo is 10 inches.

T- Shirts 100% preshrunk cotton
Men Size S-XL $20.00
Men Size 2XL $22.00
Men Size 3XL $25.00
Men Size 4-5XL $27.00

Hoodie 8oz 50/50 cotton & polyester
Men Size S-XL $30.00
Men Size 2XL $35.00
Men Size 3XL $40.00
Men Size 4-5XL $42.00

Cash is preferred or check made out to OAARS. The club currently doesn't take credit cards.

Any questions, please let Russ know.
You can email him at n8rsh1@yahoo.com or talk to him at the club meeting.

OAARS Membership Dues

Our club dues membership rollover in March of every year. Tyler and Russ will be available at the March club meeting to accept payment. If you can't make it to the club meeting, you can mail a check in to
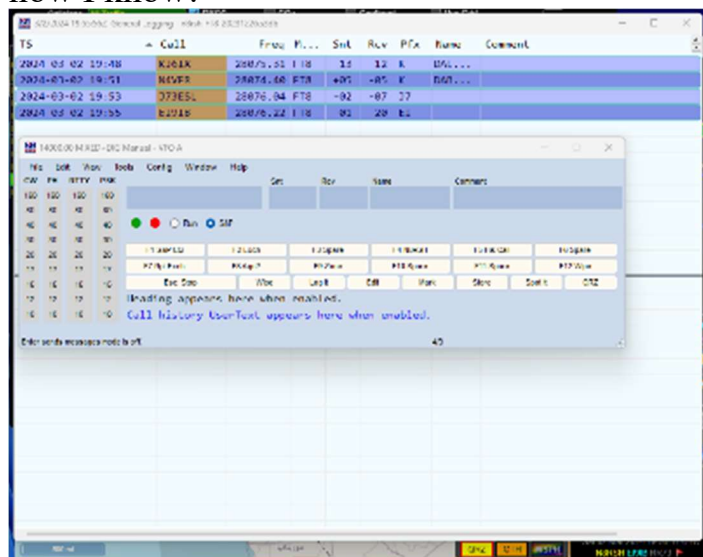
Ogemaw Arenac Amateur Radio Society
PO Box 4358
Prescott, MI 48756

Please check your current information on the club roaster as well. If you need it updated please let Russ N8RSH know.

Logging FT8 & Other QSOs

Why do we log our contacts? The FCC quit requiring hams to log contacts back in 1982, however, we still do it today. Some people will use logs to submit for contests, which is required for. Some just like keeping track of how many states and countries they have worked. Whatever your reason maybe, there is a bit of a learning curve.

First, you have to figure out how to record those contacts so you can post them later. Some people will use a paper form and enter every contact manually. I, however, enjoy using a software program to store information. There are serval logging programs for a computer and apps for a phone or tablet. Some of them cost money while others are free. I am currently using N1MM logger+ which is a free program and integrates nicely with my FT8 setup. A helpful tip, make sure that the program is running before you start making contacts. It doesn't work well, if it is not on. Ask me how I know!

The logging software will create a file for export/import into different system. The Amateur Data Interchange Format (ADIF) is a set of specifications for exchange data information standards into a file format that everyone can read and understand. When I export my log file from N1MM+ to upload, it's an ADIF file.

Second, you have to figure out where you are going to post your QSO so they can turn in to a QSL. A QSL is a confirm receipt of your contact. Some people will send you a QSL on a post card in the mail. I haven't figure that out how this all works yet. I am leaving that for a tomorrow problem. There are several websites on the internet that will exchange contacts for QSL responses digitally. Every contest origination will also have a place to submit your QSO for points or awards.

I am currently uploading to QRZ.com & Logbook of the world (LoTW) hosted by the ARRL. Setting up a logbook with QRZ.com was super easy. After signing into the site, you can either manually add every contact or upload serval in an ADFI file from a logging program. Just make sure you use the same logger program to create your ADFI information. There is a way to add double entries to your log book if you try using two different programs and they don't have the date & time synced up correctly. Ask me how I know!

Setting up for Logbook of the World (LoTW) took a bit more time. You have to download a program and verify it is you before upload an ADIF file. During the verification stage, they will mail a post card with a pin code to your address on file with the FCC associated with your call sign. This took about a week for me. After verification the program will generate and store a certificate associate with your callsign. You will want to backup this certificate file to a safe location. Without this file, you can't upload to LoTW. I am not sure if you can get a new certificate issued as I haven't found myself in that situation yet. After everything is setup in the program, it very easy to sign and upload an ADIF file with a few clicks of the mouse.

This has been my excitement of learning how amateur radio logging works. Like I said earlier, I still need to figure out how QSL cards work. But I am sure someone reading this can help me out.

Tune in next time for the next piece of the puzzle.

73, Russ N8RSH

Club Officers for 2024
President Dean Coleman W8BUH
Vice President Dave Burnell K8BD
Treasurer Tyler Rosebrugh KC8JOZ
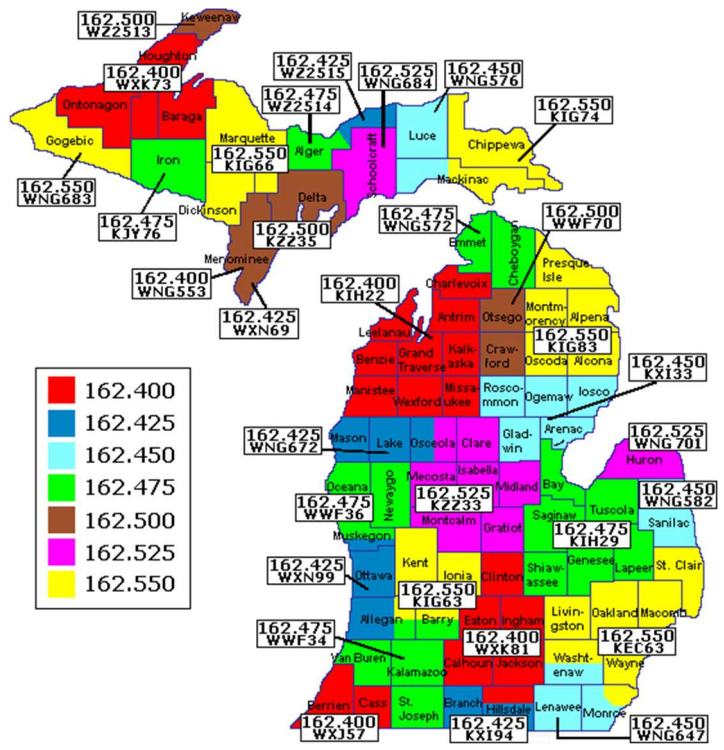**Secretary** Russell Hall N8RSH

Upcoming Events:
Mar 6, 2024 – March Club Meeting
Apr 3, 2024 – April Club Meeting
May 1, 2024 – May Club Meeting
Jun 5, 2024 – June Club Meeting
Jun 22, 2024 – Field Day
Jul 3, 2024 – July Club Meeting
Aug 7, 2024 – August Club Meeting

Come join us at our Monthly club Meetings, First Wednesday of the Month.

Monthly Club Attendance
January 2023: 18
February 2023: 16
March 2023: 13
April 2023: 20
May 2023: 20
June 2023: 27
July 2023: 37
Aug 2023: 27
Sep 2023: 26
Oct 2023: 21
Nov 2023: 26
Dec 2023: 21
Jan 2024: 21
Feb 2024: 19

Something most people have forgotten about is the NOAA weather radio system. It is a 24-hour FM Weather radio system design in the VHF bands on seven stations across the United States. The stations will broadcast a three to eight-minute program with local observations and weather forecasts from the National Weather Service in that area. In the event of weather advisories/warning/watches are issues they will interrupt the broadcast to relay this information. Most if not all of our 2m, radios can tune into these stations. On the left is a map of the channels in Michigan. ~Russ

The Ogemaw Arenac Amateur Radio Society meets the first Wednesday of every month at the Mills Township Hall, 2441 Greenwood Road, Skidway Lake, at 7 PM. For more information on the club or club events, contact Dean W8BUH.

The Prescott Testing Group has scheduled Amateur Radio Examinations the Third Wednesday of every month at the Mills Township Hall. Registration begins at 6:30 PM, Exams begin at 7 PM. For more information on testing or to pre-register, please contact: Dave, K8BD.

The Monday Night Talk Net on the 146.940 Mhz West Branch Repeater, Monday at 8PM EST
  Please review the 'Repeater Rules of Conduct' on the web site for repeater operation use.

Local Repeaters in the area

West Branch Repeater 146.940Mhz -T103.5   Rose City Repeater 145.110Mhz –T131.8
Gladwin Repeater 147.180Mhz +T173.8   Lupton Repeater 147.080Mhz +T123 C4FM
Bay City 145.310Hmz –T131.8   Mio Repeater 444.975Mhz +T123

Club Officers 2023		Club Info	
President :	W8BUH Dean Coleman	Website: www.k8oar.club	
Vice President:	Dave Burnell K8BD	Mailing Address: O.A.A.R.S	
Treasurer:	KC8JOZ Tyler Rosebrugh		PO BOX 4358
Secretary:	N8RSH Russell Hall		Prescott, MI 48756