

Mich-A-Con RF

Iron Mountain, Michigan

January 2012

In This Issue:

Words from The President

VE Testing

Club Patches

Calendar of Events

Club Activities

Club Repeaters

Dues Form

Minutes of the January 10th 2011 Meeting

Links

Army MARS resumes use of WINLINK 2000

Michigan Section News

FCC Sets Date for Medical Devices on 70 CM

ARRL Field Day Packets Now Available

Club Meetings

Club Officers, Reminders

Visit the ARRL's Web Site at

<http://www.arrl.org>

Words from the President Tom, W8JWN

It's time for an update on my New Year's resolutions mentioned in the last newsletter. I've listed them below:

- 1. I resolve not to jump into a pile up for a KP4 with my Alpha tuned to the max.**
- 2. I resolve to check my transmit VFO first, before calling any DX working split.**
- 3. I resolve to check the mic gain and compression, before using SSB.**
- 4. I resolve to never send "LID" on CW or RTTY, when someone fails to use the correct VFO.**
- 5. I resolve to read QST the month I receive it, rather than two months later.**
- 6. I resolve to answer bureau QSL cards at least every three months.**
- 7. I resolve to clean the shack at least once a month.**
- 8. I resolve to hang contest awards from 2009, 2010, and 2011, before they collect too much dust.**
- 9. I resolve to do antenna work this coming summer, rather than waiting until December.**

- #1. So far so good. I even worked a few countries with 50 watts.
- #2. I failed to keep this one! I have had a few “senior moments” HI!
- #3. I haven't operated SSB very much the past several weeks.
- #4. I have sent “UP, UP” but not “LID”. I have realized that a good way to test your transceiver and antenna system is to call a DX station on his frequency, when he is working split. (See #2 above.) The angry replies from the “policemen” on frequency will let you know that you're getting out.
- #5 I'm up to September 2011. HI!
- #6. Not applicable at this time.
- #7. The place is spotless.
- #8. I'm waiting for frames.
- #9. With the temperatures in the high 30s, I might get everything done before summer!

See, if you put your mind to it, and write them down to see, resolutions can be kept. Well, for the most part.

Club Equipment Update

The Kenwood TS-440 SAT is here and works well. There is one issue that we will discuss at the next meeting. The pilot lamp for the meter is burnt out.

The Dell laptop arrived. We also got a carrying case and a wireless mouse. I have loaded software for Field Day and other programs for the Kenwood TS-2000 at the EOC. We will have to setup the TS-2000 and RIGblaster Pro this spring. Are you reading this, Dave???

It has been a great last two weeks for DX! Malpelo island, a new country for me, and Pitcarin Island Dxpeditons have been very active. Although the SFI has been lower, the bands have been quite good to those areas.

See you at the next meeting on February 14th.

73,

Tom

V.E. TESTING:

2/04 Iron Mountain: 9:00am central time, (arrive by 8:30am) Dickinson County Library(conference room), contact Mark J. Lewis N8UKD, (906) 396-5519 - 412 Fairmount St. Kingsford, Mi 49802.

3/10 Marquette: 8:30am eastern time, (arrive by 8:00am) Marquette County Health Dept. Bldg,U.S. 41 just east of the Michigan State Police Post. You must pre-register by Tuesday preceding the test date. Contact Rich Schwenke, N8GBA at 906 249-3837 e-mail: n8gba@chartermi.net or Greg KI8AF 906 225-1594 ki8af@arrrl.net.

4/14 Hancock: 8:30am eastern time, The Zion Lutheran Church, 400 Ingot St Hancock, Mi. Go north on hwy 41 (Quincy Hill) near the lookout. Turn left on Ingot up about one block. The church is on the left hand side of the street. This is a barrier free entrance for the handicapped Contact Glenn Ekdahl, WA8QNF at (906) 482-7743 or email: wa8qnf@arrrl.net if you have questions.

4/14 Gladstone: Sponsor: Delta County Amateur Radio Society Time:10:00 AM (Walk-ins welcome) Contact: Dave Palmgren N8DP, (906) 428-2271, n8dp@dcars.org Vec: ARRL/VECLocation: Gladstone City Hall Main Meeting Room 1100 Delta Ave Gladstone, Mi. 49837.

Please arrive one-half hour early for test sessions to give time to process applications.

Testing applicants

should bring the following items with them: Two pieces of I.D. one being a photo I.D., Original license and one clear copy of their license if applicable, Completed form 605 (one will be provided if you don't have one), pencils, calculator and the test fee of \$15.00. Please have the correct fee as examiners do not carry change. Please contact the individual(s) listed to confirm date(s), location(s), etc. Note: If you have been assigned a FRN from the FCC you must use it on all forms rather than your SSN.



Club Patches are available from:

Burt Armbrust WB8EBS

693 Cliff St

Quinnesec, Mi 49876

The patches are 3 inches in diameter and sell for \$3 each.

If ordering by mail please include a SASE along with your payment.

<u>Mich-A-Con ARC Activities for February 2012</u>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1	2 ARES	3	4 HARA Swap n Shop
5	6	7	8	9 ARES	10	11
12	13	14 Meeting	15	16 ARES	17 UP 200 Dog Sled Race Begins	18 BREAK-FAST
19 UP 200 Dog Sled Race Ends	20	21	22	23 ARES	24	25
26	27	29	29			

Club Activities:

ARES Nets are conducted at 6:30 PM Central Time every Thursday on our 2-meter repeater (146.850 MHz.)

Meeting: The Mich-A-Con Club meets the second Tuesday of the month at the Dickinson County Library at 7:00 PM. Visitors and Prospective Members are always welcome.

Our Saturday Morning Breakfast is held on the 3rd Saturday of every month at 9:00 AM at the Holiday Kitchen Restaurant on Stephenson Ave (US-2) in Iron Mountain.

Club Repeaters:

The club maintains two repeaters, which are located on Pine Mountain (Elevation 1650 ft) in Iron Mountain, with tower and facilities provided by the Wisconsin Electric Power Co.

The range of the 2 meter repeater is about 40 miles under normal conditions, depending upon terrain. The 440 MHz repeater has a range of about 25 miles.

OUTPUT	OFFSET	PLTONE	CALLSIGN
146.850	MINUS	-	WA8FXQ
444.850	PLUS	100 Hz	WA8FXQ

Repeater Specifications:

The 146.85 repeater is a Melco Hi Pro (built from a kit in the 1970s) with 25 watts output. The repeaters share a Diamond dual band antenna at a tower height of 125 ft.

Please remit dues to :
Burt Armbrust WB8EBS
693 Cliff St.
Quinnesec, Mi. 49876

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip _____
Call Sign: _____
Email Address: _____
Phone: _____
ARRL Member? Yes _____ **No** _____

Annual dues were due in January.

Please make check payable to Mich-A-Con ARC
Annual dues for Full Membership - Single \$20 __ *
Family \$30 __ Repeater Only \$10 __ **

If family membership, please list additional names and call signs: _____

*** The dues for NEW members are prorated - you only pay for the remainder of the year!**

Please remit \$1.67 per month for a Single membership or \$2.50 per month for a Family membership.

**Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of the January 10th, 2012 Meeting**

President Tom Martin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Secretary Report

The minutes of the December 13th, 2011 meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Report

Membership Dues Received: \$45.00

Checks were written to: AT&T for \$25.96

Balances as of January 1st, 2012:

Checking - \$20.37

Regular Savings - \$3,562.93 of which \$1,808.33 is in the Trailer Fund.

Repeater Savings - \$956.70

Petty Cash - \$14.00

Many of the members in attendance paid their \$20.00 annual dues and we now have 17 paid members for 2012.

Treasurer Burt requested to shred 2010 and prior bank reports and 2006 and prior AT&T reports to save space and to organize. Motion passed.

Repeater Report

The repeater has been working fine.

ARES

The net has been meeting regularly every Thursday at 6:30pm on 146.850 repeater.

Old Business

Technician Class: Bob Meyers, WA8FXQ is unavailable to teach this winter due to a schedule conflict with the fireman's class he's taking. No one else volunteered to help teach the class therefore there won't be a class this year.

Veterans Day: Not a single QSL card or certificate request has been received yet.

President Tom purchased a used Kenwood TS-440S HF radio for \$451.27 Pictures were shown at the meeting. He also found some used, off lease Dell Latitude D630 laptop computers on Tiger Direct's website from \$354.00 to \$380.00 Details are: 1.8 Ghz speed, windows XP pro, 14.1" screen and a carry bag. No parallel port but it's not needed.

Motion by Skip Caswell, KE9L and seconded by Vice President Scott Jarmusch, KA8TFF for \$850.00 check to be made to President Tom for purchase of these two items. Motion passed.

Sheriff's Dept.: No updates. The antenna issue will be resolved in the spring as previously discussed.

New Business

Callingpost.com: In the event of an emergency one phone # can be called which will automatically call everyone on the list. President Tom passed a sheet around requesting cell phone #'s be given which will be updated to callingpost.com

President Tom requested volunteers to do presentations at future meetings but there were no takers. Presentation ideas were mentioned and previous volunteers were recognized.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

For the Good of the Order

Attendees reported on their recent activities.

Submitted by Secretary Paul Schultz, KD8KUF.

Attendees:

Tom Martin, W8JWN – President
Burton Armbrust Sr., WB8EBS - Treasurer
Scott Jarmusch, KA8TFF - Vice President
Paul Schultz, KD8KUF – Secretary
Red Maxwell, KC9KWS
Nate Mieras, KD8GLP
Al Poquette, K9ECG
Kristina Anderson, KC9UHW
Corissa Stachowicz, KD8KUG
Joe Gerwig, KD8KWP
Robert J. Thomas, K9RJT
Joe Komblevicz, KB8ETK
Dana Bey, KD8POR
Randy Zandt, KB9ZES
Joe Ferris, KC9TQR
Skip Caswell, KE9L
Bob Meyers, WA8FXQ

Links:

ARRL WEB PAGE: <http://www.arrl.org>

ARRL MICHIGAN: <http://www.arrl-mi.org/>

US REPEATERS: <http://www.usrepeaters.com>

MICH-A-CON : <http://www.qsl.net/ka1ddb>

Tropospheric Ducting Forecasts:

<http://www.dxinfocentre.com/tropo.html>

FCC Universal Licensing System: <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

QTH.COM: <http://www.qth.com/>

QRZ.COM: <http://www.qrz.com/>

Ehamnet.com: <http://www.eham.net/>

U.P. Skywarn: <http://kcra-mi.net/skywarn/>

Army MARS Resumes Use of Winlink 2000

from :

The ARRL Letter

January, 19,2012

According to Government Liaison for [Army MARS](#) Pudge Forrester, AAA9GL, Lieutenant General Susan Lawrence has reversed the decision to phase out the use of the [Winlink 2000](#) global radio e-mail system by Army MARS members. General Lawrence stated that the Army -- after reviewing its capabilities -- had decided that the continued use of Winlink 2000 was a valuable asset to Army MARS members and to the agencies that were using the service. She issued a statement to that effect on December 21, 2011. On January 5, 2012, the Chief of Army MARS officially notified his membership that the phase out notice had been rescinded. Army MARS members and agencies who had been using the service hailed the decision by General Lawrence and resumed use of Winlink 2000.

Michigan Section News January, 2012

ARRL Michigan Section
Section Manager: Larry Camp, WB8R
wb8r@arrl.org

Greetings Michigan Amateurs

This is my first Section News Column as the new Michigan Section Manager and I hope that you will bear with me during my learning curve.

I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to Dale, WA8EFK for his 9 ½ years of service as Michigan Section Manager and to offer my best wishes for him in his new endeavor as Vice-Director of the Great Lakes Division. I know he will do well. I am excited about the Section Staff (that Dale assembled) and their work ethic and dedication to the hams of Michigan. Because the Staff is already in place and working hard, I am able to hit the ground running. What a competent group of hams they are! I am looking forward to the opportunity to visit as many hamfests as I can around the state. This will allow me to meet many of the hams of Michigan and to make new friends. I look forward to hearing your ideas and helping you however I can with any radio related problems. I won't pretend to be able to solve all problems, but you can be assured that I will do everything in my power to assist you personally or direct you to someone who can help you.

I will make myself available as a speaker for your radio club meetings and other activities. Michigan is a pretty big state and the logistics of attending club meetings 500 miles away might be problematical, but I will try very hard to be able to accept as many speaking requests as possible. I would appreciate being placed on your club's newsletter distribution list so I can see the activity that is taking place around the section. Newsletters are a wonderful resource and I never tire of reading them. My email address is wb8r@arrl.org. For any newsletters that are still sent by snail mail, my mailing address can be found on page 16 of QST. You can also find my telephone number there as well.

I would like to announce a new workshop that has been put together by our Assistant Section Manager for Training, Dan Romanchik, KB6NU in conjunction with Affiliated Club Coordinator, Scott Bicknell, W1BIC: Ham Radio Club Leadership. This ground-breaking workshop is Dan's brainchild and seems to be just what the doctor ordered for the ham radio clubs in Michigan. The first session of this workshop is scheduled for March 3 at the Red Cross building in Ann Arbor from 8:30 AM to approximately 4:00 PM. Pre-registration is requested and the cost for the workshop is \$10, which will cover class materials, coffee and doughnuts and lunch. You can contact Dan at kb6nu@arrl.net or at 734.930.6564 for questions or registration. We are planning a workshop in the Kalamazoo area in April or May and ultimately would like to bring the workshop to several areas in the state so that clubs and hams can take advantage of the opportunity to attend. Clubs in the target areas can look forward to an email from Dan announcing the workshop in your area. We hope to see you there.

I am pleased to announce the following election results for the Ogemaw Arenac Amateur Radio Society for the year 2012: President Dale L. Wheeler, KD8JSL; Vice-President Chris Barbb, W8COP; Secretary George R. Babcock, N8RBS and Treasurer Tyler Rosebrough, KC8JOZ.

Congratulations and thank you to these hams for stepping up to serve their clubs.

FCC News: FCC Sets Date for Medical Devices on 70 cm

from:

The ARRL Letter

February 2, 2012

In November 2011, [FCC Commissioners unanimously agreed](#) to allocate spectrum and adopt service and technical rules for the utilization of new implanted medical devices that operate on 413-457 MHz (70 cm).

These devices will be used on a secondary basis as part of the Medical Device Radiocommunication (MedRadio) Service in Part 95 of the FCC rules.

In the [Federal Register for Friday, January 27](#), the FCC announced that the effective date for these new rules is Monday, February 27. The new rules expand the existing MedRadio Service rules to permit the use of new wideband medical implant devices that employ neuromuscular microstimulation techniques to restore sensation, mobility, and other functions to paralyzed limbs and organs.

These medical devices hold enormous promise to advance the state of medical care, lower health costs, and improve the quality of life for countless Americans. The rules will allow these new types of MedRadio devices to access 24 megahertz of spectrum in the 413-419, 426-432, 438-444, and 451-457 MHz bands on a secondary basis.

ARRL Field Day: 2012 Field Day Packet Now Available

from:

The ARRL Letter

February 2, 2012

It's that time of year again -- time to start gearing up for ARRL Field Day, June 23-24, 2012!

ARRL's flagship operating event -- always held the fourth full weekend in June -- brings together new and experienced hams for 24 hours of operating fun.

Field Day packets are now [available for download](http://www.arrl.org/field-day) (<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>) and include the complete rules, as well as other reference items such as forms, ARRL Section abbreviation list, entry submission instructions, a Frequently Asked Questions section, guidelines for getting bonus points, instructions for GOTA stations and a kit to publicize your event with the local press.

A brief one-page flyer with basic "What is Field Day" information has also been included in this year's Field Day packet. Amateur Radio clubs and individuals are encouraged to reproduce this flyer as a handout for information tables.

Club Meetings:

The Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month in the Dickinson County Library at 7:00 PM. Visitors and prospective members are always welcome!

The URL for the Mich-A-Con ARC web site is:
<http://www.qsl.net/ka1ddb/>

Previous editions of Mich-A-Con RF can be accessed by a link on the news page.

The ARRL DX Bulletin on the Upcoming Activities page is updated each Thursday and the contests section is updated on a monthly basis.

Club Officers:

President:
Tom Martin, W8JWN
(906) 774-5463
tmartin@chartermi.net

Vice President:
Scott Jarmusch KA8TFF
s_jarmusch@yahoo.com

Secretary:
Paul Schultz KD8KUF
(906) 774-8900
pauls@schultzequipment.com

Treasurer:
Burt Armbrust WB8EBS
(906) 774-8383
wb8ebs@yahoo.com

Reminders:

Club dues for the year 2012 were payable on January 1st. Please use the Membership Application - Renewal form when paying your dues. Checks should be made payable to : Mich-A-Con Arc and sent to our Treasurer, Burt Armbrust WB8EBS at the address listed on the form. Thank-you for supporting your club!

The Next Mich-A-Con Meeting will be held on Tue February 14th 2012. It will be held in the Dickinson County Library at 7 PM

MICH-A-CON RF

**Mich-A-Con ARC
c/o Stephen Skauge
213 South Angeline
Ishpeming, Mi 49849**