

Mich-A-Con RF

Iron Mountain, Michigan

February 2011

The View from the World

IARU, ITU, and Emergency Communication

from:

The ARES E-Letter

February 16, 2011

Rick Palm, K1CE editor

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Visit the ARRL's Web Site at
<http://www.arrl.org>

If you were to ask most Amateur Radio operators what entity is responsible for granting privileges to use portions of the radio spectrum the answer would likely be their own national telecommunication authority. Here in the US, that would be the FCC, of course. However, that's only partially true. The ultimate authority for the use of the radio spectrum is the [International Telecommunication Union](http://www.itu.int/en/pages/default.aspx) (ITU). (<http://www.itu.int/en/pages/default.aspx>) Every radio amateur should understand what the ITU is and why its work and decisions are important.

There are three sectors in the ITU: Radio-communication (ITU-R), Development (ITU-D) and Standardization (ITU-T). The [International Amateur Radio Union](http://www.itu.int/en/pages/default.aspx) (IARU) is a Sector Member of both the ITU-R Sector and the ITU-D Sector. The IARU participates in both sectors by attending meetings that involve issues that may impact the amateur or the amateur-satellite services.

The ITU-R Sector is important for radiocommunication services, including the amateur and amateur-satellite services. Every four or five years the ITU holds a World

Radiocommunication Conference (WRC) to revise the international Radio Regulations.

ITU-D is where much of the ITU's work on disaster response takes place. The development arm of the ITU considers emergency telecommunications an integral part of its projects integrating telecommunications/information and communication technology in disaster predication, detection, and alerting. Emergency telecommunications play a critical role in the immediate aftermath of disasters by ensuring timely flow of vital information, which is much needed by government agencies and other humanitarian actors that are involved in rescue operations and providing medical assistance to the injured. IARU's task in the ITU-D Sector is to ensure that Amateur Radio's role in disaster communications is understood and appreciated by the ITU members. The ITU-D Sector also conducts a worldwide conference.

The ITU also sponsors regional and global exhibitions called TELECOMS. An ITU Telecom offers a global Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) community platform that gathers stakeholders from across the telecommunications/ICT sector to connect, collaborate and create the future ICT landscape. Forums and seminars are conducted at the Telecoms and IARU has participated in such forums, usually on topics related to emergency communications. - IARU E-Letter, January 2011 issue, International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) (<http://www.iaru.org/>) Secretary Rod Stafford, W6ROD [[Here](#)] (<http://www.itu.int/emergencytelecoms/index.html>) is a good site for information on ITU activities relating to disaster response, mitigation, and the Tampere Convention - K1CE]

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/>

Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of the February 8, 2011 Meeting

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

The meeting began with a round of introductions.

Secretary Report

The minutes of the January 11 meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Report

Membership Dues Received: \$350.00

Checks were written to: WalMart, \$7.52; ATT, \$23.44.

Balances as of February 1, 2011:

Checking - \$77.88

Regular Savings - \$2,105.31, \$334.62 of which is in the Trailer Fund.

Repeater Savings - \$1,055.92

Petty Cash - \$15.00

We now have 29 paid members for 2011.

Repeater Report

No problems to report. Bob Meyers winterized the repeater enclosure. Installation of a 24 volt power supply will allow opening and closing of the building dampers automatically on temperature and make manual seasonal changes unnecessary.

ARES

The net has been meeting regularly. Dennis, K8SWX, will contact the Sheriff Dept for installation of the emergency communications equipment

Old Business

Club Trailer –

The quote of \$204 from the Holmberg General Agency for club liability insurance also includes liability insurance for the trailer.

Veteran's Day Special Event –

All requested QSL cards and certificates have been sent.

License Class –

We will hold a license class in the winter of 2012.

New Business

Field Day 2011 –

Paperwork to reserve the small pavilion at Marion Park was signed at tonight's meeting.

Tom Martin will co-chair Field Day this year. We still need another volunteer to co-chair the event.

There will be a presentation on the N3FJP logging program at the May meeting.

Due to improvements being made in Marion Park in 2012, field day will have to be held at another location.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

For the Good of the Order

Attendees reported on their recent activities.

Submitted by Mike Bray

Attendees

Mike Bray, K8DDB---Secretary
Scott Jarmusch, KA8TFF---Vice President
Joe Gerwig – KD8KWP
Rob Thomas – KD8KMT
Art Costa, KD8GLO
Nate Mieras – KD8GLP
Bob Meyers – WA8FXQ
Burt Armbrust, WB8EBS---Treasurer
Paul Schultz – KD8KUF
Red Maxwell – KC8KWS
Joe Komblevicz – KB8ETK
Tom Martin, W8JWN---President
Perry Amicangelo
Dana Bey
Bob Taylor
Darlene Taylor
Joe Ferris

Wanted:

**YOUR ARTICLES, IDEAS AND INPUT!
SEND IT IN NOW TO:**

kd8ccp@arrrl.net

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 are 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 ARC Activities for March 2011

<u><i>Sun</i></u>	<u><i>Mon</i></u>	<u><i>Tue</i></u>	<u><i>Wed</i></u>	<u><i>Thur</i></u>	<u><i>Fri</i></u>	<u><i>Sat</i></u>
		1	2	3 <i>ARES</i>	4	5
6	7	8 <i>Meeting</i>	9	10 <i>ARES</i>	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 <i>ARES</i>	18	19 <i>BREAK FAST</i>
20	21	22	23	24 <i>ARES</i>	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 <i>ARES</i>		

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 1,650 feet) 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 feet

FCC Adds New Country to CEPT Reciprocal Agreement for Amateurs

from:

ARRL Letter

February 10, 2011

On Monday, February 7, the FCC released a *Public Notice* ([DA 11-221](#)), adding a new country to the CEPT reciprocal operating arrangements for US citizens who hold an FCC-issued General, Advanced or Amateur Extra class Amateur Radio licenses. US hams may now operate in Montenegro, as well as the other countries covered by the European Conference of Postal and



Telecommunications Administrations ([CEPT](#)), subject to the regulations in force in the country visited, to operate in those countries.

US amateurs with a General class license will be granted CEPT Novice Radio Amateur License privileges, in accordance with [ECC Recommendation \(05\)06 \(as amended\)](#). *US amateurs holding an Advanced or Amateur Extra class license will be granted CEPT Radio Amateur License privileges in accordance with [CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 \(as amended\)](#). US hams who will be traveling to CEPT countries can now go to these links and see if any new countries have been added to the reciprocal agreements.*

While operating an amateur station in a CEPT country, the US amateur must have a copy of the Public Notice, proof of US citizenship and evidence of their FCC license in their possession. They must show these documents to proper authorities upon request.

CEPT countries participating in *ECC Recommendation (05)06* as of February 7, 2011 are: Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark (including Greenland and the Faroe Islands), Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Switzerland.

CEPT countries participating in *CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01* as of February 7, 2011 are: Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark (including Greenland and the Faroe Islands), Estonia, Finland, France (including Corsica, Guadeloupe, French Guyana, Martinique, St Bartholomew, St Pierre and Miquelon, St Martin, Reunion and its Dependencies, Mayotte, French Antarctica, French Polynesia and Clipperton, New Caledonia, and Wallis and Futuna), Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom (including Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man).

Kentucky School Contacts International Space Station

from:

Weaver's Words

February 7th 2011

Jim Weaver, K8JE editor

The Foster Heights Elementary School in Bardstown, KY successfully contacted the International Space Station by Amateur Radio at 14:04 UTC, January 28. The QSO was made through K4SSA, the amateur station of the Kentucky Space Science Academy in Bardstown. Reports are that the audience totaled about 100, including an observer from the Kentucky Department of Education. Older students served as control operators for younger students.

Students have been studying frequency and wavelength, radio waves, electrical circuits, electricity and magnetism, the electromagnetic spectrum, how to measure voltage and resistance and the Global Positioning System. Also studied are satellite orbiting, Amateur Radio satellites, radio communications, Morse code, and crystal and shortwave radio.

The contact was made as part of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. The program is sponsored by AMSAT, ARRL and NASA.

Great Lakes Division Convention September 11

from:

Weaver's Words

February 7th 2011

Jim Weaver, K8JE editor

Being an odd-numbered year, 2011 is a year for a bi-annual Great Lakes Division Convention. It will be held concurrent with the Findlay Hamfest in Findlay, OH on Sunday, September 11, 2011. The Convention will be held on the Hamfest grounds as a coordinated activity with the Hamfest. A series of interesting seminar topics and speakers is being developed for this event.

In addition to the seminars and speakers, Great Lakes Division Awards will be presented. An announcement requesting nominations for these awards will be made soon. In the meantime, the awards that are available and the criteria for them may be found by going to the GLD website, <http://arrl-greatlakes.org> and clicking on Awards in the column at the left side of the opening page. It is time to begin to think of possible nominees and gathering supporting information for these.

Attendance at the GLD Convention is free with the purchase of a Findlay Hamfest ticket.

Michigan D-Star Net

from:

Weaver's Words

February 7th 2011

Jim Weaver, K8JE editor

Last month when I mentioned a new D-Star net in Ohio I asked if there were additional similar nets in the Great Lakes Division. Bob Wilcox, K8OMS of Owosso, MI took me up on my request and told me of the Michigan D-Star Net.

"The net meets at 8:00 PM every Monday on Reflector 024 Node A (The Michigan Reflector). Please visit the Shiawassee D-STAR website at <http://www.w8shi.net> for more information," Bob said..

ARRL Field Day: 2011 Field Day Packet Available

from:

The ARRL Letter

February 3rd 2011

It's that time of year again -- time to start gearing up for ARRL Field Day, June 25-26, 2011! 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](#) and include the complete rules (including a change for 2011), 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.

There is one rule change for 2011. Starting this year, all stations operating in Class A may use a free VHF station without increasing their operating category. This is designed to encourage more activity on the VHF bands, especially 6 and 2 meters, during the best sporadic-E season of the year.

We have also included in the FD packet a brief one-page flier with basic "What is Field Day" information that may be reproduced as a handout for your information table.

Words from the President

Tom, W8JWN

Another RTTY contest is in the log. I finished the CQWPXRTTY contest Sunday, February 13th, at 2359 UTC just 4,000 points shy of one million. My goal was to reach 1,000,000 points for the first time in any contest. Unfortunately, Murphy made an uninvited visit. This time it was RFI caused by running 1000 watts into my 80-meter sloper that beamed directly into the cable TV and power line to the house. My N1MM Logger contest program froze six times and required me to reboot the computer each time. I lost control of my two transceivers.



W8JWN's SO2R Setup for Contesting

No control, no operate! I lost about an hour of operating time. Of the 30 hours allowed for a single operator, I only had 29. I would have easily met my goal with one more hour.

Due to a health issue in Mike Bray's family, Mike has resigned as secretary of the club. He has been our secretary for seven years and has repeatedly asked for someone to take the office at our November elections. Mike has done an excellent job and will be missed.

Paul Schultz volunteered to be the temporary secretary until the next election. Thanks Paul.

FYI:

Under BYLAWS, in our club constitution, Section 3-Dues:

Dues shall be payable at the first meeting of the year. Members not paid by the third regular meeting of the year shall be dropped from membership.

Our March meeting is the third meeting of the year. If you haven't paid your dues, March 8th would be the perfect time to do so!

The trailer discussion just keeps going on and on. At the March meeting we will discuss another option for storage. Be there!

I haven't had anyone come forward to co-chair Field Day. If there isn't a co-chair after the March meeting, I will consider a motion to skip Field Day this year. Do we really want to do that???

73,

Tom W8JWN

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 KA8TF
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 2011 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 March Mich-A-Con Meeting will be held on Tue March 8th 2011. 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**