



MICH-A-CON

Iron Mountain,
Dickinson County, Mich

February 2018

Meeting Reminder: **Second Wednesday of the Month**

Which is **February 14, 2018** at 07:00 PM at the Dickinson Library, Iron Mountain.

From The President

Words from the President February 2018

After waiting with baited breath to work 3Y0Z for DXCC #339, the ARRL throws Kosovo (Z6) into the mix. Now, I would have to work Z6 and 3Y0Z to have contacted all DXCC entities. Well, I worked Z60A on 20 CW several days before I went to Vegas. I was now ready to get #340 for the top of the Honor Roll! Come on Bouvet!

On Saturday, before I left for Vegas, I got a text message from Terry (K9TRY) saying that Bouvet was canceled! Then, the following comes in my email:

2000 UTC 3 February 2018

During the last 72 hours we continued to experience the high winds, low clouds, fog, and rough seas that have prevented helicopter operations since our arrival at Bouvet. No improvement was predicted in the weather forecast for the next four days. Then, last night an issue developed in one of the ship's engines. This morning the captain of the vessel declared it unsafe to continue with our project and aborted the expedition. We are now on our long voyage back to Punta Arenas. As you might imagine the team is deeply disappointed, but safe. There is already talk about rescheduling the DXpedition.

Bob - K4UEE, Ralph - K0IR, Erling - LA6VM

Then on Monday this comes:

3Y0Z DXPEDITION NEWS: February 5, 2018, 0930 UTC: Our captain has decided that it is in the best interest of safety and expediency to proceed directly to Capetown, South Africa rather than Punta Arenas, Chile. We are now heading north to avoid the possibility of encountering ice. Currently, there is no ice in sight or on radar. In due time, we will head easterly toward Capetown.

Our entire team is safe. Most are resting in their bunks and in good spirits. We will keep the amateur radio community and our families informed, as we continue our journey.

Those guys were within spitting distance of the is-

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land and couldn't land! Then couldn't even go back to there point of origin, They will be on that boat for almost a month.

Well, I will now have time to get all the antennas in good working condition to be ready for the next Bouvet Dxpeditio. Propagation will most likely be better in the future as well.

Of course, the ARRL might add two more "rocks" to the DXCC list!

See you Wednesday at the next meeting. Will you be my Valentine?

73, Tom W8JWN

See new info!!!

Update from DX World: 3Y0I license has been renewed. A landing permit has also been issued by the Norwegian Polar Institute. No dates of activity are mentioned but the permit is good until February 2019". DX World also noticed that the 3Y0I website (<https://bouvetoya.org/> <https://bouvetoya.org/>) has been updated with the following blog entry:

"Our trip planned originally at the end of 2017 was cancelled at the request of the organizers of the 3Y0Z expedition. Due to the cancellation by the organizers, we are now returning to the implementation of our project and preparations for our trip as a matter of urgency". Plans are for 3Z9DX and a few other operators to spend a couple of weeks on Bouvet Island sometime during the subantarctic summer.

MICH-A-CON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES OF January 10th, 2018

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

Secretary Report

Minutes of the December 13th, 2017 meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Report

Balances as of January 10th, 2018:

Checking: \$66.01

Savings: \$3059.67 (Repeater: \$1038.00)

Cash: \$23.00

Repeater Report

Bob Meyers reported the two meter unit is working well, although not as well to the East. He also noted that it now puts out a 100 Hz encode tone that can help if someone is receiving the Plymouth, Wisconsin repeater.

Old Business

Two motions, required to the change the club repeater trustee, were approved unanimously:

1 - Tom Martin is to be named as repeater trustee. (Burt Armbrust/Skip Caswell)

2 - The repeater license address be Tom Martin's home address. (Terry Moriarity/Dave Thomas)

A motion to purchase a Kenwood TS-570 to replace the club's TS-440, from Bill Grabowski, (\$475) (



Skip Caswell/Burt Armbrust), was passed unanimously.

Tom Martin reported that according to the 2017 Field Day results, published in the December issue of QST magazine, the club placed fourth among class 3A in Michigan. Getting more contacts from the GOTA station is a goal for Field Day 2018.

New Business

Debbie Grabowski noted the the ARRL will pay \$2.00 back to the club for each member who joins or renews through the club. Debbie offered to handle this for those who are interested. A list was circulated to identify those club members who belong to the ARRL.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.(Skip Caswell/Bob Meyers)

The 50/50 drawing was won by Janet Schafer, who donated the proceeds to the club. The treasury was enriched by \$56.00.

For the Good of the Order

Attendees reported on their recent activities.

Attendees

Tom Martin	W8JWN	Bruce LaLiberte	KD9HQD
Scott Jarmusch	KA8TFF	Skip Caswell	KE9L
Joe Ferris	KC9TQR	Duane Lundamo	KE8GHE
Debbie Grabowski	KD8VTS	Terry Moriarity	K9TRY
Bill Grabowski	KD8VTT	Mike Bray	K8DDB
Burton Armbrust	WB8EBS	Sam Holmes	N8ATS
Gary Schafer	K4FMX	Dave Thomas	KG9Y
Bob Meyers	WA8FXQ	Brian Lucas	Visitor
Tim Miller	N8TUM	Janet Schafer	Visitor
		Joyce Williams	Visitor

News

ARLX003 New IARU Region 2 HF Beacon Coordinator Named

QST de W1AW Special Bulletin 3 ARLX003
From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT January 23, 2018
To all radio amateurs

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 Executive Committee has named Dennis Stice, W15V, of Oklahoma City, as the new HF Beacon Coordinator for the region. Former Region 2 HF Beacon Coordinator Bill Hayes, WJ5O, stepped down on January 19, after 10 years in that position.

IARU R2 President Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AM, praised Hayes for his service. "During this period Bill, has advised the IARU R2 Executive Committee and provided detailed reports on the status of HF beacons in the continent," Leandro said. "The position couldn't have been in better hands."

NCVEC Releases New Technician License Question Pool into the Public Domain

QST de W1AW ARRL Bulletin 3 ARLB003
From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT January 9, 2018
To all radio amateurs

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) has announced the release of the 2018-2022 Amateur Radio Element 2 Technician class license question pool into the public domain. Each question pool must be published and made available to the public prior to its use as a question set, from which individual examinations are developed.

Alert the NCVEC Question Pool Committee to any necessary corrections or typographical errors via email at, gpcinput@ncvec.org.

The new Technician license question pool contains 428 questions. It will become effective for all Technician class license examinations starting on July 1, 2018.

NCVEC Question Pool Committee Releases Errata to New Technician Question Pool

The NCVEC Question Pool Committee has announced some errors in the 2018-2022 FCC Element 2 (Technician class) Question Pool released on January 8.

These changes have been made in the download files as of January 12:
T1F11 - Distractor A; change "They" to "The"; T4A01 - Change to correct answer; correct answer is D; T5B13 - Distractor A; change "GHZ" to "GHz"; T6A07 - Modified question. "What electrical component is usually constructed as a coil of wire?" T8C08 - Distractor A; change "VOIP" to "VoIP."

ARRL VEC teams are advised to check the NCVEC website at <http://www.ncvec.org/> regularly for updates to the Question Pool, which may include errata and withdrawn questions. The new Element 2 Question Pool goes into effect on July 1, 2018.

Amendment to ARRL DXCC Rules Will Expand DXCC List

QST de W1AW DX Bulletin 4 ARLD004
From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT January 23, 2018
To all radio amateurs

The ARRL Board of Directors approved a motion to amend the DXCC Rules, when it met January 19-20. Section II, Subsection 1 of the DXCC Rules now will include a new Subsection (d): The entity has a separate IARU member society and is included on the US State Department Independent States in the World (<https://www.state.gov/s/inr/rls/4250.htm>) .

"The discussion during the Board meeting and the rule change did not address any specific entity," ARRL Radiosport Manager Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, said. "The amendment could allow some additions to the current DXCC List of entities. It's a good thing not only for DXCC but for all active hams."

In fact, the Republic of Kosovo (Z6) has been added to the DXCC List of current entities, increasing the total number of current DXCC entities to 340. The addition of Kosovo raises to 331 the required number of current entities confirmed to qualify for DXCC Honor Roll; Top of Honor Roll is 340. DXCC award accounts are being tabulated to reflect the change.

This change qualifies as an "event," effective on January 21, 2018, at 0000 UTC. Nothing is retroactive.

A new Logbook of The World (LoTW) TQSL configuration file (v.11.4) will be released on January 23. TQSL will detect when this file has been released and will install the update automatically. Radio Amateurs outside of Kosovo should continue to upload their logs to LoTW in the usual manner. LoTW users within Kosovo (either with a Z6 call sign or reciprocal call sign Z6/home call sign) will use TQSL to request a new call sign certificate for their call sign. The request will use Republic of Kosovo as the DXCC entity, and the QSO Begin date will be January 21 or later. LoTW will reject call sign certificate requests for the Republic of Kosovo with a QSO Begin date prior to January 21. Z6 users requesting call sign certificates may e-mail a copy of their Amateur Radio license to, LoTW-Help@arrrl.org .

Kosovo's IARU member society SHRAK (<http://www.shrak.org/en/>) and its president Vjollca Caka, Z61VB, are hosting a 10th-anniversary activation to celebrate Kosovo's independence in February, 2008.

SHRAK Headquarters station Z60A now is active on several bands with multiple guest operators. Club Log will be used for this activation, while QSLs are via OH2BH

ARLB032 W1AW 2018 Winter Operating Schedule

ZCZC AG01
 QST de W1AW
 ARRL Bulletin 1 ARLB001
 From ARRL Headquarters
 Newington CT January 2, 2018
 To all radio amateurs

ARLB001 W1AW 2018 Winter Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST)
 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)

(Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100 UTC (4 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2100 "	"	"
2200 "	"	"
2300 "	"	"
0000 "	"	"
0100 "	"	"
0200 "	"	"
0245 "	"	"
0300 "	"	"
0300 "	"	"
0400 "	"	"

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8025 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675
 28.0675 50.350 147.555
 DIGITAL: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095
 50.350 147.555
 VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590
 50.350 147.555

Notes: CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM
 CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35,

30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM
 CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

DIGITAL = BAUDOT (45.45 baud), BPSK31 and MFSK16 in a revolving schedule.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2330 UTC (6:30 PM EST), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular digital frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Thursdays and 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Fridays.

Audio from W1AW's CW code practices, CW/digital bulletins and phone bulletin is available using EchoLink via the W1AW Conference Server named "W1AWBDCT." The monthly W1AW Qualifying Runs are presented here as well. The audio is sent in real-time and runs concurrently with W1AW's regular transmission schedule.

All users who connect to the conference server are muted. Please note that any questions or comments about this server should not be sent via the "Text" window in EchoLink. Please direct any questions or comments to w1aw@arrl.org.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Digital at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

All licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1500 UTC to 1700 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM EST), and then from 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur radio license or a photocopy.

The W1AW Operating Schedule may also be found on page 90 in the January 2018 issue of QST or on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule>.

Please note W1AW is now active on 50.350 MHz for all its CW practice, and CW, digital, and phone bulletins.

ARRL MICHIGAN SECTION NEWS

Greetings to the Hams of Michigan, (*Carry Over....Ed*)

This is my first section report to you since inheriting the role as your MI Section Manager.

A special thanks to Larry Camp, WB8R and the fine members of his staff for bringing me up to speed about what is happening in our state. I still have much to learn, so please be patient with me.

Also, I'd like to thank all who have reached out to contact me so far; it's been a great opportunity to meet new amateurs, reconnect with some of my old friends around the state, and even a few colleagues who have moved to other geographies. For me, amateur radio is still a fascinating hobby after 50 years of being a part of the community.

Michigan ARRL Section Staff Travel Plans (2018)

Jan 28, Hazel Park Swap & Shop, Madison Hgts, MI – K8JK

Feb 3, HARA Shop & Swap – Negaunee, MI – K8JK

Feb 10, Traverse City Hamfest – (W8CT)

Feb 18, Livonia ARC Swap & Shop – (WA8EFK)

Mar 17, Crossroads Hamfest, Kalamazoo, MI – K8JK

Apr 28, Chassell Hamfest, Chassell, MI – K8JK

Apr 29, GMARC 1st Annual Hamfest, Madison Hgts, MI – K8JK

May 5, Cadillac Hamfest, Cadillac, MI – K8JK

Michigan Public Service Activities

Michigan Section Traffic/ARPSC Nets (all times local)

Please note that time adjustments may be necessary due to propagation changes. Contact your net manager for alternate frequencies and/or times.

MACS - MI Amateur Communications System 3.952 1000 Daily

UPN – Upper Peninsula Net 3.921 1700 Daily; Noon Sun
MIARPSC – MI Amateur Radio Public Service Corps 3.932 1700 Sun

QMN – The Michigan Net 3.563 1830 and 2200 Daily

MITN – MI Traffic Net 3.952 1900 Daily

MIDTN – MI Digital Traffic Net 3.583 (Olivia 8/500) 2000 Tu, Th, Sat

MIADS – MI ARES D-Star Net Reflector 24A Mon 2000

D8EN - District 8 Emergency Net 3.909 Wed 2000

GLETN – Great Lakes Emergency and Traffic Net 3.932 2000 Daily

MVTN – MI VHF Traffic Net IRA Link System 2100 Mon, Wed, Fri, Sun

NLEUP - Northern Lower Eastern UP Net 146.64- 18:30 Daily

SEMTN – SE MI Traffic Net 146.76- 2215 Daily

TMMTN – Thumb Mid-Michigan Traffic Net 147.30+ 2130 Mon - Sat

Michigan Amateur Radio Public Service Corps (ARPSC) Activities for December 2017

Station Activity Reports (SAR) for December 2017:

WB8WKQ 225, WB8TQZ 209, N5MKY 114, K8ED 131, N5MKY 113, K8RDN 100, WD8MWD 81, K8BKM 66, KE8CEH 44, WD8USA 33, , WB8RCR 11, KC8NFN 8.

Total SAR reported: 1021

Public Service Honor Roll (PSHR) for December 2017:

WD8USA 168, WB8RCR 141, WD8MWD 120, WB8TQZ 110, K8RDN 100, N5MKY 95, KC8YVF 76 , KE8CEH 64, N8OSL 41, KC8NFN 38.

Brass Pounder's League (BPL): None

Net traffic for November 2017:

Michigan Amateur Communications System 166, The Michigan Net 111, Michigan Traffic Net 56, Upper Peninsula Net 40, Southeastern Michigan Traffic Net 37, Michigan VHF Traffic Net 28, Michigan Digital Traffic Net 6, Michigan Amateur Radio Public Service Corps 3, Saginaw County ARES Net 2, District 3 ARPSC Net 2 Total net traffic reported: 451

November Volunteer Hours Dollar Value:

ARPSC: \$ 157,609

NTS: \$ 31,955

Total Volunteer Dollar Value for November 2017: \$ 189,564

More information is available at <http://nts-mi.org/>. Come join us on our traffic and public service nets.

A hearty thanks to the hundreds of volunteers across the State of Michigan who work hard as volunteers to hone their skills month after month to make sure they are ready for any situation that may arise. Our ARPSC and NTS programs are an integral part of AuxComm, which in turn is an integral part of the Michigan State Police Homeland Security Division.

I'm looking forward to meeting many of you at an upcoming event! Thanks to all of you for keeping amateur radio great in Michigan!

73

ARRL Michigan Section

Section Manager: James A Kvochick, K8JK

k8jk@arrl.org

Dales Tales

Greetings everyone, welcome to "Dale's Tales" for February 2018.

And here we are half way through winter and having more fun than should be allowed. I read about a host of winter ham radio activities like "Freeze Your (insert whatever here) Off, NVIS antenna contests, dog sled races, half marathons, Winter Field Days and a host of others. We are a hardy bunch of fun lovers, and these activities certainly eliminate the boredom.

It's not like it all has to be outdoors, the well attended cold weather hamfests attest to that and with Kosovo contacts now qualifying for DXCC, spending some time in front of the radio is not too bad. The scores are adding up for ARRL's International Grid Chase (see <https://igc.arrl.org/index.php>) and the ship Betanzos is approaching the shore of Bouvet and 3Y0Z will soon be on the air. This is a welcome relief from the relatively poor band conditions and lack of any truly challenging operating activity over the past few months.

For those who have expressed an interest and concern about certain reported plans by the ARRL board, I am pleased to report that common sense prevailed at the meeting. Several of the motions were not submitted for action, some were referred to committee and/or legal counsel for evaluation and some were completely withdrawn following Board discussion.

Further, the ARRL Policy on Board Governance and Conduct of Members of the Board of Directors and Vice Directors was referred for complete review and certain clauses in that were unclear in their meaning were immediately removed. Those removals included the sentence in Section 6C regarding the non-disclosure of the votes of individual members and the entirety of Section 8 covering support of Board Decisions.

In a separate action, the Board removed a limitation on the Ethics and Elections Committee regarding the public release of information relating to an individual's eligibility for election. In future elections, this information will be released unless the candidate specifically requests otherwise.

The complete ARRL Board meeting minutes are due to be submitted to the Board members for approval and then released to the membership within the next few days.

TOM'S COMMENTS: Comments from our Vice Director Tom Delaney W8WTD

We're well past New Year's Day, but January is typically a time when people make "resolutions" to do or not do things in the coming year. I've always resisted "resolutions" as such, but I do like to look ahead at trends and where things are going.

As for amateur radio, I see challenges ahead, but good signs as well. The biggest challenge is to keep ham radio relevant for new people. I'm actively working on this, through my participation in some of the ARRL committees I serve on, thinking about new ways of licensing, and new ways of educating prospective hams in the hobby. And, the good signs here are that so many of you in the Division are out there with license classes every few months. Many of you are Volunteer Examiners. And many of you are working not just with "generic" licensing classes, but those targeted at groups like Scouts, STEM classes, etc.

There's also the personal challenge for each ham operator, of "keeping up." What new formal training will you do this year? Or what new mode will you try? Keep up your skills and learn new ones!

And how can you offer what you have learned, last year, or over the last fifty, to help new people understand radio?

And how can we strengthen our clubs in a time when people don't want to join anything, and don't want to volunteer for anything inside a club they do belong to? Throughout the Great Lakes Division, we see examples of clubs that are thriving, and then some that aren't doing so well. Trying to understand what works to get people interested in a challenge for all of us.

Despite the challenges, we're making progress. There are new modes, new things to enjoy, new people to meet. I

hope all of us stay positive, and keep enjoying this great hobby. 73,

--73, Tom W8WTD Vice Director, Great Lakes Division

Dale Williams WA8EFK
Director
Great Lakes Division

STATE CONVENTIONS: In even numbered years, the Great Lakes Division's three Sections host their individual State Conventions. If your local hamfest is interested in serving as the host for your State Convention in 2018, your club should contact your Section Manager and request to serve as the sponsor. State Conventions normally encompass special forums, can request guest forum speakers from ARRL and often hold recognition Banquets and special programs. Having a convention also means additional attendance beyond that normally expected at a regular hamfest.

HAMFESTING: Here is the current Great Lakes Division ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest Schedule covering the next couple of months. These swaps have received their sanctioning approval from ARRL HQ at the time of this publication. We have approximately 65 ARRL hamfests each year in the Division. I do encourage each Hamfest Chair to register early for ARRL Sanctioning. Be sure to invite your ARRL Officials as soon as your date is set.

2/3/18	HARA Hamfest	Negaunee, MI
2/10/18	Cherryland Hamfest	Traverse City, MI
2/18/18	InterCity Hamfest	Mansfield, OH
2/18/18	Livonia Hamfest	Livonia, MI
3/3/18	Cave City Hamfest	Cave City, KY
3/4/18	NOARS Hamfest	Elyria, OH
3/17/18	Crossroads Hamfest	Kalamazoo, MI
3/17/18	MOVARC Hamfest	Gallipolis, OH
3/18/18	Toledo Mobile R.A.	Perrysburg, OH
4/7/18	Lincoln Trail	Elizabethtown, KY
4/14/18	Cuyahoga Falls	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
4/21/18	Portsmouth	Portsmouth, OH
4/29/18	GMARC Hamfest	Madison Hgts, MI
4/29/18	Athens Hamfest	Athens, OH

Be sure to check your Section's news pages for the latest local happenings, club and net information.



ARRL PROPAGATION BULLETIN

ZCZC AP06
 QST de W1AW
 Propagation Forecast Bulletin 6
 ARLP006 From Tad Cook, K7RA Seattle, WA
 February 9, 2018
 To all radio amateurs

Compared to the previous seven days, solar activity increased in the first week of February. There were two days with no sunspots, February 1 and 3. On February 2 a new sunspot region emerged, but by the next day it had disappeared. Another sunspot region appeared on February 4, and the area it covered on February 4-7 was 80, 130, 160 and 200 millionths of the solar hemisphere.

We haven't seen as much coverage since October 7, 2017 when the total sunspot area was 220 millionths of the solar hemisphere and the sunspot number was 11, the minimum non-zero sunspot number.

A dozen days prior on September 25 the sunspot number was 36 and the total sunspot area (as always, expressed in millionths of a solar hemisphere) was 560.

You can see that already the sunspot numbers and solar flux have dropped since last year:

[ftp://ftp.swpc.noaa.gov/pub/indices/
old_indices/2017_DSD.txt](ftp://ftp.swpc.noaa.gov/pub/indices/old_indices/2017_DSD.txt)

As a reference, you can compare these numbers with the peak of the current cycle in 2014:

<ftp://ftp.swpc.noaa.gov/pub/indices/>

[old_indices/2014_DSD.txt](#)

Note the year contained in the above two URLs. You can edit that to look at any year, back to 1994.

You can look here to see graphs of sunspot and solar flux activity, and see what the daily numbers were for the previous peak and minima:

<http://www.wm7d.net/hamradio/solar/>

So last week the average daily sunspot number increased from 3.7 (at the end of January) to 10.3 and average solar flux from 69.1 to 72.5. Average planetary A index decreased modestly from 6.3 to 4.4, while average mid-latitude A index (measured at one location, in Virginia) decreased from 4.9 to 3.6.

The heightened activity should continue over the next week. Predicted solar flux is 78 on February 9-10, 76 on February 11-12, 74 on February 13-14, 72 on February 15-16, 70 on February 17-22, 69 on February 23-28, 70 and 71 on March 1-2, 72 on March 3-14, 71 on March 15, 70 on March 16-21, and 69 on March 22-25.

Predicted planetary A index is 8 on February 9, 5 on February 10-16, then 8, 10, 5, 8, 10, and 8 on February 17-22, 5 on February 23 through March 13, then 8, 12, 8, 10, 5, 8, 10 and 8 on March 14-21 and 5 on March 22-25.

F.K. Janda, OK1HH sent this geomagnetic activity forecast for the period February 9-March 8, 2018.

"Geomagnetic field will be:

Quiet on February 12-14, 20

Mostly quiet on February 17, 23, 25-27, March 1-3, 5-8

Quiet to unsettled on February 11, 15, 18-19, 21-22, 24, 28

Quiet to active on February 9-10, 16, March 4 Active to disturbed-not anticipated

"Amplifications of the solar wind from coronal holes are expected on February 5-6, 9-12, 18-19, 27-28."

Al Kaiser, N1API of Meriden, Connecticut sent a report on Sunday, February 4:

"During the 10-10 QSO Party on Sunday February 4 we had what was probably a nice sporadic-E opening that started with NC about 1507 UTC, then nothing until TN on 1704 which quickly changed to solid signals from OH, IL, IN, AND MI. By about 1822 it was all over. 10 meters always has some surprises in store."

Jeff, N8II reported from West Virginia on February 8:

"This week, there is very little good news of improved openings on 17 (a bit better than a week ago) and 15 meters so far despite the considerably higher SFI.

"But, all of the low bands including 160 seem better thanks to more ionosphere. Tonight, February 9 UTC, I worked A45XR (Oman) first call on 80M CW at 0053Z who was S8 and around the same time logged Denmark and Slovenia with good signals. I also logged Z61DX Kosovo, on 17M CW at 1540Z today February 8th for a new band country and Z60A was S9 on 40 CW tonight, but too many calling to get through.

There were many S9+ Europeans on 20M this morning, much better signals than a month ago."

A new space weather video from Dr. Tamitha Skov can be seen at:

<http://bit.ly/2EtXBtz>

If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at, k7ra@arrl.net .

For more information concerning radio propagation, see

the ARRL Technical Information Service web page at, <http://arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. For an explanation of numbers used in this bulletin, see <http://arrl.org/the-sun-the-earth-the-ionosphere>.

An archive of past propagation bulletins is at <http://arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive-propagation>. More good information and tutorials on propagation are at <http://k9la.us/>.

Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at <http://arrl.org/propagation>.

Instructions for starting or ending email distribution of ARRL bulletins are at <http://arrl.org/bulletins>.

Sunspot numbers for February 1-7, 2018 were 0, 11, 0, 11, 13, 17, and 20, with a mean of 10.3. 10.7 cm flux was 69, 68.8, 69.2, 73, 74, 76.9, and 76.6, with a mean of 72.5. Estimated planetary A indices were 4, 4, 3, 3, 8, 5, and 4, with a mean of 4.4. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 2, 3, 2, 3, 8, 4, and 3, with a mean of 3.6.
NNNN



ARRL DX NEWS

ZCZC AE07
QST de W1AW
DX Bulletin 7 ARLD007
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT February 8, 2018
To all radio amateurs

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by The Daily DX, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

GEORGIA, 4L. Furkan, TA7AOF and Golkem, TA7AZC are QRV as 4L/TA7AOF and 4L/TA7AZC, respectively, until February 12. Activity is on the HF bands with a focus on various digital modes. This includes being entries in the CQ World Wide WPX RTTY contest. QSL to home calls.

JAMAICA, 6Y. Yuri, VE3DZ will be QRV as 6Y2T from February 13 to 20. Activity will be on the HF bands. This includes being an entry in the upcoming ARRL International DX CW contest. QSL to home call.

THE GAMBIA, C5. Alan, G4DJX, Jessica, M6LPJ, Polly, M6POG, Morgan, M6MXD and Stan, M6SQO are QRV as C5DX until February 16 while visiting the Senior High School in Farafenni. QSL direct to G4DJX.

MOROCCO, CN. A group of operators will be QRV as CN2DF and CN2FR from February 13 to 20. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK31 with two stations active. QSL via DL7DF.

CAPE VERDE, D4. Henning, OZ1BII will be QRV as D44EE from Praia Santa Maria, Santiago Island, IOTA AF-005, from February 15 to 20. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using only CW. This includes being active in the upcoming ARRL International

DX CW contest as a Single Op/All Band/Low Power entry. QSL to home call.

PHILIPPINES, DU. Dindo, DU1UD is QRV as DX8TT from Tawi-Tawi, IOTA OC-174, and DX8MAP from Cagayan De Sulu Island, IOTA OC-105, during 2018. Activity is on the HF bands in his spare time, and on short notice. QSL via operator's instructions.

ISLE OF MAN, GD. Billy, GM0OBX, Jonathan, MM0OKG and Stevie, MM0VPY are QRV as MT0IXD from Scarlett Point on the Isle of Man, IOTA EU-116, until February 12. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB and RTTY. This includes being an entry in the CQ World Wide WPX RTTY contest. QSL via M0OXO.

SARDINIA, ISO. Simone, IS0AFM is QRV with special call sign IR0FOC from Cagliari until December 31 to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the First Class CW Operators' Club, or FOC. QSL direct to home call.

ST. LUCIA, J6. Charles, KG9N will be QRV as J6/KG9N from Saint Lucia Island, IOTA NA-108, from February 13 to 27. Activity will be on the HF bands. This includes being an entry in the upcoming ARRL International DX CW contest. QSL to home call.

JAPAN, JA. Special event station 8J3B is QRV until June 26 during the 100th anniversary of the Lake Biwa Rowing Song. QSL direct to JK3IJQ.

AUSTRIA, OE. The United Nations ARCDXC will be QRV as 4UOR on World Radio Day, which is February 13. QSL via UA3DX.

NETHERLANDS, PA. A group of operators are QRV as PA2018BP until March 9 to commemorate Robert Baden Powell, founder of the Scout Movement. QSL via PA3EFR.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, V2. Paul, VA3ZC will be QRV as V26PE from Jolly Harbour on Antigua, IOTA NA-100, from February 13 to 27.

Activity will be on 40, 30 and 20 meters using JT65, FT8, and some SSB. QSL to home call.

BELIZE, V3. Torsten, DG7RO and Alexandra, DO5ALX are QRV as V31TF and V31RU, respectively, until February 25. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB, RTTY and some FT8. This includes being active in the CQ World Wide WPX RTTY contest, and the upcoming ARRL International DX CW and CQ World Wide 160 Meter SSB contests. QSL to home calls.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, VP5. Pat, K0PC will be QRV as VP5/K0PC from Caicos, IOTA NA-002, from February 13 to 20. Activity is on the HF bands. This includes being active as VP5K in the upcoming ARRL International DX CW contest. QSL to home call.

VIET NAM, XV. BJ, WA7WJR is QRV as XV9WJR from Bien Hoa until February 14. Activity is mainly on 40 and 20 meters using primarily CW. QSL direct to home call.

OPERATION APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT. The following operation is approved for DXCC credit: Palestine, E44WE, operation from March 23, 2017 to March 23, 2018.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The CQ World Wide RTTY WPX Contest, YLRL YL-OM Contest, SARL Field Day Contest, Asia-Pacific Spring CW Sprint, SKCC Weekend CW Sprintathon, KCJ Topband CW Contest, Dutch PACC Contest, OMISS SSB QSO Party, FISTS Winter Unlimited CW Sprint, RSGB 1st 1.8 MHz CW Contest and the Balkan HF Contest will certainly keep contesters busy this upcoming weekend.

The ARRL School Club Roundup runs from February 12 to 16.

The 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint, and CQC Winter QSO CW Party are scheduled for February 12.

The RSGB 80-Meter Club Data Championship, CWops Mini-CWT CW Test, QRP 40-Meter CW Fox Hunt, Phone Fray, NAQCC CW Sprint and PODXS 070 Club Valentine Sprint are scheduled for February 14.

The ARRL International Grid Chase runs during all of 2018.

Please see February 2018 QST, page 87, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest Web Sites for details.

NNNN



CLASSIFIED

Space Available to push your stuff

LINKS AND STUFF

Under re-construction. Watch for the orange barrels

Delta County Amateur Radio
Escanaba, MI
www.dcars.org

Cooper Country Radio Amateur
Dollar Bay, MI
www.ccras.net

Area Repeaters

Escanaba 147.15+	100.0
	145.13- No PL
Wells 444.30+	No PL
Gladstone	
IRLP 4013 147.55 Smpx	100.0
Champion 146.82-	100.0
Cooks 146.70 -	110.9
GrdMarais 147.195+	No PL
Gwinn 146.64	100.0
Iron Mtn 146.85 —	100.0
	444.85 — 100.0
Iron River 145.17-	107.2
Ishpeming 146.91-	No PL
IRLP 8993 443.50+	100.0
Manistique 146.79 -	No PL
Marquette 146.97 -	No PL
	147.27+ 100.0
	444.80+
	No PL
Menominee 147.00+	107.2
Newberry 146.61 +	No PL
	147.09+ 114.8
Republic 147.09+	No PL
Trenary 147.03 +	100.0
Wetmore 145.41-	100.0

ARRL Affiliated Club Area Nets

UP Net 3921khz
 Daily 5pm EST
 Sunday Noon EST

UP CW NET 3590khz
 Sunday 7pm EST

160 Net 1895khz
 Everynight 0100UTC
 Dailey 0600UTC

Midcars 7258khz
 Daily 0730am EST
 0200pm EST

Outhcars Node 9614
 Saturday 0900am EST

UP Echolink Node 9617
 Sunday 8pm EST

Copper County ARES
 146.88
 Wednesday 9pm EST

**Mich-A-Con Social and
ARES**
 146.850
 Thursday 0630pm CST
 ARES follows

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

ARRLMICHIGAN: <http://www.arrl-mi.org/>

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

Tropospheric Ducting Forecasts:
<http://www.d/infocentre.com/tropo.html>

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

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

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

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

E Ham Net <http://www.eham.net/>

UP Skywarn: <http://kera-mi.net/skywarn/>

Band Conditons: <http://bandconditions.com/>

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Terry Moriarity: 715 251 1670

Activities:

Second Wednesday of the month the Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club meets in the Dickinson Country Library at 7:00 P.M. Winter or 6:30 PM Summer

Visitors and prospective members are always welcome!

Club Repeater:

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. The range of the 440 MHz repeater is about 25 miles. Both are under normal conditions, depending upon terrain.

The Repeater Specifications:

The 146.85 repeater is a Yaesu DR 1 digital and Analog repeater Frequency. 146.85 minus offset, 100 hz PL tone encode and decode Power 50 watts. The Controller is an Arcom RC 210 . It is also System Fusion capable.

. The 440 MHz repeater is a GE Master II 444.85, plus offset, 100 hz pl tone. 35 watts output. The Controller is a Arcom 210.

The 2 meter and the 440 can be linked. The repeaters share a Diamond dual band antenna at a tower height of 125 ft.

We're on the Web!

<http://www.qsl.net/ka1ddb/>

Previous editions of the Newsletter can be accessed by a link on the **news** page

From Your Newsletter Editor

Thank you to those contributors and critiques.
Welcome your articles - They make the Newsletter.

For those not getting the Newsletter, it is because I have an incorrect email address. Please give me the correct address.

The following is referenced from <http://www.dx-code.org>

DX Code Of Conduct

I will listen, and listen, and then listen again before calling.

I will only call if I can copy the DX station properly.

I will not trust the DX cluster and will be sure of the DX station's call sign before calling.

I will not interfere with the DX station nor anyone calling and will never tune up on the DX frequency or in the QSX slot.

I will wait for the DX station to end a contact before I call.

I will always send my full call sign.

I will call and then listen for a reasonable interval. I will not call continuously.

I will not transmit when the DX operator calls another call sign, not mine.

I will not transmit when the DX operator queries a call sign not like mine.

I will not transmit when the DX station requests geographic areas other than mine.

When the DX operator calls me, I will not repeat my call sign unless I think he has copied it incorrectly.

I will be thankful if and when I do make a contact.

I will respect my fellow hams and conduct myself so as to earn their respect.

MEMBERSHIP

Call Sign	Last Name	First Name	City	Phone	Email
WB8EBS	ARMBRUST	BURT	QUINNESEC	906-774-8383	wb8ebs@yahoo.com
W8XBO	ARMBRUST	ED	IRON MOUNTAIN	906-779-5593	w8xbo@sbcglobal.net
KC9KVP	BAKER	BETH	NIAGARA		
KB9AVX	BAKER	SCOTT	NIAGARA	715-251-1944	kb9avx@yahoo.com
KB8SBP	BERTOLDI	BILL	KINGSFORD		
W8BEY	BEY	DANA L.	KINGSFORD	906-774-7937	lst797@charter.net
K8DDA	BRAY	MIKE	VULCAN	906-201-1550	mikebray@chartermi.net
KE9L	CASWELL	SKIP	IRON MOUNTAIN	906-774-3371	acaswell4238@charter.net
KC8QZG	DAKE	DAVE	NEWBERRY		
KC9ZBC	DOLATOWSKI	SCOTT	GOODMAN	715-633-1006	kc9zbc@live.com
KC9TQR	FERRIS	JOE	FLORENCE	517-589-4386	jrferris@borderlandnet.net
N9MBG	FRY	ED	PEMBINE	906-221-7307	efry7849@gmail.com
KG8NK	GEMBOLIS	LOUIS	ISHPEMING	906-485-5442	lgembolis@chartermi.net
KE8FWN	GRABOWSKI	BILLY	CRYSTAL FALLS	?	
KD8VTS	GRABOWSKI	DEBRA	CRYSTAL FALLS	906-284-2450	kd8vts@gmail.com
KD8VTT	GRABOWSKI	WILLIAM	CRYSTAL FALLS		
KC8TH	HEYBOER	TOM	IRON MOUNTAIN	906-779-0481	heyboer.tom@gmail.com
N8ATS	HOLMES	SAM	PEMBINE	906-322-8507	chopsam@centrylink.com
KA8TFF	JARMUSCH	SCOTT	IRON MOUNTAIN		
KB9EMU	KNUTSON	WILLIAM	FENCE	715-336-2250	dknutson54@gmail.com
KB8ETK	KOMBLEVICZ	JOSEPH	IRON MOUNTAIN	906-774-4094	kombleviczj@charter.net
KD9HQD	LaLIBERTE	BRUCE	NIAGRA, WI	?	liberte@borderlandnet.net
KE8GHE	LUNDAMO	DUANE	?	?	?
W8JWN	MARTIN	THOMAS	IRON MOUNTAIN	906-774-5463	tmartin@chartermi.net
WA8FXQ	MEYERS	BOB	VULCAN	906-396-0119	meyersb@uplogon.com
KC8LRP	MEYERS	MARGE	VULCAN	906-396-8913	mgmeyer@uplogon.com
N8TUM	MILLER	TIMOTHY	FLORENCE	715-696-6517	timmiller.up@gmail.com
K9TRY	MORIARITY	TERRY	NIAGARA	715-251-1670	kb9zer@yahoo.com
ND8M	PAUL	JARED	NORWAY	989-660-9535	jaredpaul@me.com
KD8SZA	PAUL	MICHELLE	NORWAY		
KC9NFT	PERRON	BARRY	FLORENCE	715-696-6175	bperron2@netzero.com
KC8JRI	REED	GORDY	IRON MOUNTAIN	906-779-1254	gordyreed@charter.net
KE8GHH	RITTENHOUSE	DAVE	IRON MOUNTAIN	?	?
K8ABS	RIVERSIDE	JIM	IRON MOUNTAIN	906-458-0773	jriverside@charter.net
W8IFI	RYE	JIM	CRYSTAL FALLS	906-875-3582	jimrye@up.net
K4FMX	SCHAFFER	GARY	NIAGRA, WI	?	GARYSCHAFFER@LARGERIVER.NET
KG9Y	THOMAS	DAVE	NIAGARA	715-251-1393	kg9y@arrl.net

BLACK: Paid Members

BROWN: Past or Unpaid Members



MICH - A - CON

Please remit dues to:

**Debbie Garbowski, KD8VTS
203 Camp 5 Road
Crystal Falls, MI 49920**

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____, _____, _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

ARRL Member? Yes _____ No _____

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: _____

Call signs: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Annual dues are Payable January 1st.

Dues for New Members are Pro-rated. Please remit \$1.67 per month for a Single membership or \$.50 per month for a Family membership.