

Mich-A-Con RF

Iron Mountain, Michigan

March 7, 2013

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

Words from the President

Tom W8JWN

This coming Wednesday marks the 4th week of recovery from my knee replacement. It seems like those four weeks have flown by. (My wife doesn't think so.) HI! The first 10 days, I spent a lot of time in bed with an iPad. I didn't feel like going to the desk to use the computer, or even turn on the radio. As I became stronger, I eventually made the trek (20 feet) to the shack.

There were a few Dxpeditions on the air that allowed me to fill some band/mode slots: XT2TT in Burkina Faso and 9U4U in Burundi. XT2TT is still on the air as I write this.

The most recent Dxpedition ,to give me needed contacts on 10 and 12 meters, is the TX5K group on Clipperton Island. I only need Clipperton on 6 meters to have it on 9 bands. I don't think that will happen. Propagation on 10 meters hasn't been that great. I doubt if 6 will be any good as well.

It is ironic that Clipperton is on now, as I recover from knee surgery. In 1978 I worked Clipperton for the first time, when I was recovering from major knee surgery. TX5K will be on until March 10th.

Other Dxpeditions to look for in the next few weeks are 3B9DX on Rodrigues Is. and H44G in the Solomon's. They will also operate on Temotu as H40T. I need H44 on RTTY.

Since I have had the radio on everyday, the past two weeks, I've had the opportunity to check 10-meter propagation. It's still very poor. The North-South path is usually fair to good and I had one contact in Africa. I haven't heard any Europeans since last fall. Has anyone in the club had any DX success on 10?

This will probably be my last "Words" using this computer. It has been giving me signs of impending doom! Looks like I'll be re-loading a lot of programs on a new computer.

I would like to thank the club and Scott Warmish for the card. It was much appreciated. Hopefully, I will be able to hobble to the next meeting on the 12th.

73,

Tom W8JWN



Tom, W8JWN works Field Day 2011

**Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of the February 12th, 2013 Meeting**

Vice-President Scott Jarsmuch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Secretary Report

The minutes of the Jan. 8th meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Report

Membership Dues Received: \$138.⁰⁰

Balances as of January 22nd, 2012:	
Checking	\$ 20.45
Regular Savings	\$ 452.28
Trailer Fund	\$2341.93
Repeater Savings	\$1829.65
Petty Cash	\$ 7.00

We now have 21 paid members.

Repeater Report

Bob Myers discussed linking to Marquette repeater on 440, should not be a problem with a beam. We already have most of the hardware. Transmit is a little off frequency and the crystal will be tweaked to correct.

ARES

A couple of nets have been missed. Nets are every Thursday at 6:30 pm on the 146.850 repeater.

Old Business

Locking cabinet for the radio at the Sheriff's department was discussed. Burt & Paul will visit the Sheriff's department and measure everything up and make a drawing.

Field Day Chairman was requested.

Survey results as detailed in the newsletter was discussed. Bob Myers volunteered to bring a test meter in and demonstrate testing HF radios. Auto patch could also be demonstrated

and tested with the same equipment.

Six class members have begun the new Technician class and built antennas in last night's class. Everyone appears to be studying. No class next Monday night.

Republic, MI 146.82 repeater, PL tone 100 was discussed. Some members made some contacts within the last few months. It's only 4 watts but will be boosted to 50 watts.

New Business

Secretary Paul, KD8KUF has about 500' of copper welding wire to donate to the club.

Welcome new member Sam Holmes, N8ATS. Extra class. Relocated to Goodman recently. Besse sawmill burned down in Newberry.

3rd Sat. of every month breakfast notice will remain in the newsletter due to some recent interest. Used to be popular.

Adjournment

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

For the Good of the Order

Attendees reported on their recent activities.

Submitted by Paul Schultz

Attendees

Scott Jarmusch, KA8TFF - Vice

President

Burton Armbrust Sr., WB8EBS -
Treasurer

Paul Schultz, KD8KUF -

Secretary

Dana Bey, KD8POR

Barry Perron, KC9NFT

Joe Ferris, KC9TQR

Bob Meyers, WA8FXQ

Sam Holmes, N8ATS

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/>

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

Name: _____
Call Sign: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip _____

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

Annual dues are Payable January 1st.

**Dues for New Members are Pro-rated.
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 2013

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

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.

Repeater Specifications;

The 146.85 repeater is a GR Master Pro, 40 watt output repeater. The 440 repeater is a GE Master Pro, 80 watt. The repeaters share a Diamond dual band antenna at a tower height of 125 ft.

V.E. TESTING:

11/6 Iron Mountain: 9:30am central time, Dickinson County Library(conference room), contact Mark J. Lewis N8UKD, Fairmount St. Kingsford, Mi 49802. Examinees must be pre-registered. (906-776-1553).

3/9Marquette: 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@arri.net.

4/6 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@arri.net if you have questions. You can now take a Hamexam "Anytime". Contact Glenn, WA8QNF at (906)482-7743 for details.

4/13 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

Electrical Safety Tips a link sent via email from: Paul, KD8KUF

http://www.grainger.com/Grainger/static/electrical-safety-266.html?cm_mmc=EMP_-_eNewsletter_-_20130304Newsletter_-_Grainger&cm_em=pauls@schultzequipment.com&RID=22162332

Be sure to check it out!

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.

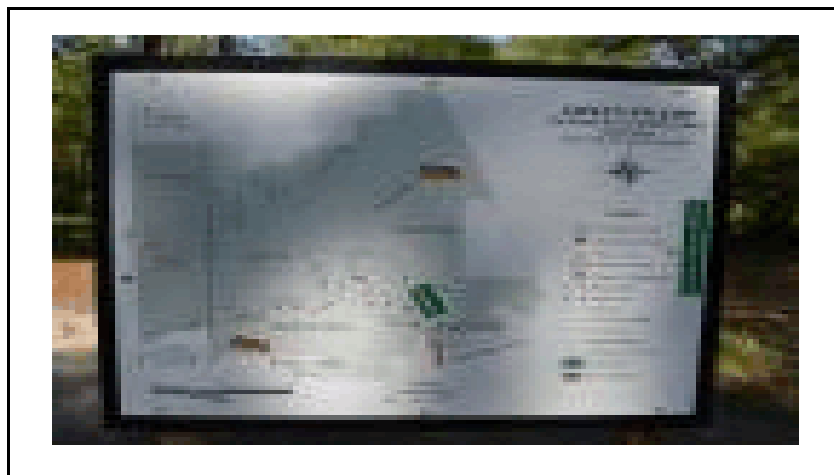
Florida Hams Prove that Ham Radio Works When Cell Phones Don't

from:
ARRL Letter, March 7th 2013

After a day of exploring the Green Swamp Wildlife Management Area -- which covers 50,692 protected acres in Florida's Lake, Polk and Sumter Counties -- with his grandson, Joe Cody, KE4WDP, of Winter Haven, Florida, saw that the roads were flooding and becoming hazardous. As he tried to drive out of the area, Cody's small pick-up truck got bogged down in the mud. Since he was out of cell phone range, Cody tried calling for help on the Dade City 146.880 repeater. Richard Parker, KF4ORW, of Dade City, Florida, heard the call and answered.

After hearing the situation, Parker called 911 in Pasco County, who put him in touch with the dispatch in neighboring Polk County. Cody passed his location on to Parker, who in turn passed it on to the Polk County Sheriff's Office. "Polk County 911 took over trying to get help," Parker said. "They called me back several times for more information and I was able to relay information from Joe to them. Then Ted Bulmanski, W4TKB, who is also from Dade City, started monitoring and copying Joe's information."

About 30 minutes later, Parker saw a helicopter fly over and around Cody's position, and after another 30 minutes, Cody radioed back on the repeater, saying he was on his way home -- thanks to a Lake County Deputy in a Sheriff's Office truck that had a winch. "We learned that Joe was eight miles inside Lake County," Parker explained. "That's why the Lake County Sheriff's Office responded instead of the Polk County authorities. The Polk County Sheriff's Office called me back to say that the helicopter from Lake County found the truck inside Lake County and sent both a deputy from Lake County, as well as a Fish and Game Officer and winched him out of the mud. They called me back to thank us for assisting the stranded pair. Ham radio still works when other forms of communications don't." -- Thanks to ARRL West Central Florida Section Public Information Coordinator Kevin Poorman, KV4CT, for the information



Ham Radio in Hollywood: Last Man Standing to Feature Ham Radio in Upcoming Episode

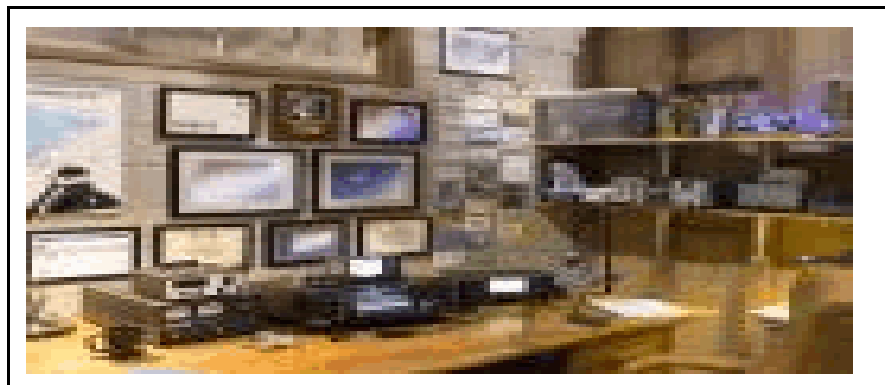
from:
ARRL Letter, February 13, 2013

In an episode to air in mid-March, the hit ABC comedy Last Man Standing -- starring Tim Allen as Mike Baxter, KA0XTT -- will prominently feature scenes with cast members using Amateur Radio. This episode will be the first episode to feature Amateur Radio since the middle of the show's first season.

According to Last Man Standing Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA, the episode called "The Fight" will feature several of the regular cast members talking on the radios. "I can't say much about the episode right now," Amodeo told the ARRL, "But this episode has the most significant use of Amateur Radio in a TV comedy since Herman Munster, W6XRL4, got his ham license." Fans of 1960s television will remember the episode of The Munsters (originally aired January 21, 1965) when Herman, on his ham radio, overheard children using walkie-talkies who were pretending to be Martians.

"In addition to the original KA0XTT station in Mike Baxter's work office, viewers will get to see Mike's ham shack in the basement of his home," Amodeo explained. "A cast member will also be calling in from a portable HF radio while hiking along the Amazon." The ARRL provided many of the awards -- including 5 Band DXCC, 5 Band Worked All States, 5 Band Worked All Continents and VUCC -- that are on Mike Baxter's home shack wall. The episode, which was filmed February 12, will also feature Richard Karn. Fans of Allen's former show Home Improvement will remember Karn as Al Borland.

Last Man Standing is produced by 20th Century Fox for the ABC Television Network and airs on Friday nights at 8 PM Eastern and Pacific and 7 PM Central.



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 2013 are 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:
Tuesday March 12th, 2013. It will be held in the Dickinson County Library at 7 PM**

Wanted:

**Your Articles, Your pictures
and your Input for the
Newsletter!**

Send them to:
kd8ccp@arrl.net