



MICH-A-CON

Iron Mountain,
Dickinson County, Mich

March 2018

Meeting Reminder: [Second Wednesday of the Month](#)

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

From The President

Rakastan kyseenalaistamista! ¡Me encanta competir! 私はコンテストが大

Watashi wa kontesuto ga daisuki! Я люблю оспаривать!YA lyublyu osparivat

In any language, I love contesting! This weekend will be the last contest of the season for me. The BARTG RTTY test is a bit unusual in that you send the UTC Time in the report, You must copy their Time as well. A typical report would be like this: K9TRY 599 001 0201 W8JWN. The contest also starts at 0200 this evening. This is fine for me because I will be operating SB-40. As I get older, like Skip, I like to rest during the day. A Single Band 40 or 80 allows you to rest.

I have done very well in the past as a single band entry: 8th Call Area Record on 15 meter RTTY in the 2015 CQ WPX RTTY test in 2015. And using the club call, KC8VC, I placed #2 in the country as a Single Band 40 meter entry in the 2003 CQ WW WPX SSB contest.

I have been contesting since 1959. As a novice, KN9SNX, I participated in my first contest the ARRL Sweepstakes. Back then, you were crystal controlled. No VFO allowed. My 40 meter crystal was for 7.179. (Can't explain why I purchased that crystal???) Wow! Times have certainly changed. My 80 meter crystal was for 3.725.

Inside this issue:

From The President	1
Secretary Report	2
News.....	4
ARRL Request Privilege	4
Local Hamfest	5
WiAW Schedule	6
ARRL Michigan Section News	7
ARRL Dales Tales	9
Propagation Bulletin	11
ARRL DX Report	13
Classified	15
Links and Stuff	16
About Our Club	17
DX Code Conduct	18
Membership List	19
Membership Form	20

So, to enjoy a little competition, try contesting. You don't need big antennas and high power. Well, 1500 watts helps a lot!!!

**73,
Tom W8JWN**

PS: Remind me to tell you what languages were used at the beginning of these Words, when we have our dinner at Bartoletti's on the 24th at 6:00.

MICH-A-CON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES OF February 14th, 2018

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

Secretary Report

Minutes of the January 10th, 2018 meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Report

Balances as of February 14th, 2018:
Checking: \$136.01
Savings: 2840.67 (Repeater: \$1216.00)
Cash: \$23.00

Repeater Report

The two-meter unit was reported as working normally and the 440 unit is back on the air. The two radios are linked, so they can communicate.

Old Business

The paperwork to change the licensee address for the repeaters has been sent to W5YI, but as yet nothing more has been received.

The Kenwood TS-570, that was purchased from Bill Grabowski, is at Tom Martin's residence. It seems to work fine. The TS-440S was picked up by Dave Thomas.



A reminder was made that the club party will be on Saturday, March 24, at Bartoletti's in Aurora.

Club Treasurer Debbie Grabowski will handle ARRL membership renewals for anybody that is interested. The club will get a portion of the monies involved.

New Business

No new business was proposed.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.(Scott Baker/Skip Caswell)

The 50/50 drawing was won by Brian Lucas, who donated part of the proceeds to the club. The treasury was enriched by \$35.00.

For the Good of the Order

Attendees reported on their recent activities.

Attendees

Tom Martin	W8JWN	Beth Baker	KC9KVP
Scott Jarmusch	KA8TFE	Brian Lucas	Visitor
Joe Ferris	KC9TQR	Joyce Williams	Visitor
Burton Armbrust	WB8EBS		
Gary Schafer	K4FMX		
Tim Miller	N8TUM		
Skip Caswell	KE9L		
Mike Bray	K8DDB		
Scott Baker	KB9AVX		

News

ARRL Requests Expanded HF Privileges for Technician Licensees

From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT March 1, 2018
To all radio amateurs

ARRL has asked the FCC to expand HF privileges for Technician licensees to include limited phone privileges on 75, 40, and 15 meters, plus RTTY and digital mode privileges on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters. The FCC has not yet invited public comment on the proposals, which stem from recommendations put forth by the ARRL Board of Directors' Entry-Level License Committee, which explored various initiatives and gauged member opinions in 2016 and 2017.

"This action will enhance the available license operating privileges in what has become the principal entry-level license class in the Amateur Service," ARRL said in its Petition. "It will attract more newcomers to Amateur Radio, it will result in increased retention of licensees who hold Technician Class licenses, and it will provide an improved incentive for entry-level licensees to increase technical self-training and pursue higher license class achievement and development of communications skills."

Specifically, ARRL proposes to provide Technician licensees, present and future, with phone privileges at 3.900 to 4.000 MHz, 7.225 to 7.300 MHz, and 21.350 to 21.450 MHz, plus RTTY and digital privileges in current Technician allocations on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters. The ARRL petition points out the explosion in popularity of various digital modes over the past 2 decades. Under the ARRL plan, the maximum HF power level for Technician operators would remain at 200 W PEP. The few remaining Novice licensees would gain no new privileges under the League's proposal.

ARRL's petition points to the need for compelling incentives not only to become a radio amateur in the first place, but then to upgrade and further develop skills. Demographic and technological changes call for a "periodic rebalancing" between those two objectives, the League maintains.

"There has not been such a rebalancing in many years," ARRL said in its petition. "It is time to do that now." The FCC has not assessed entry-level operating privileges since 2005.

The Entry-Level License Committee offered very specific data and survey-supported findings about growth in Amateur Radio and its place in the advanced technological demographic that includes individuals younger than 30. It received significant input from ARRL members via more than 8,000 survey responses.

"The Committee's analysis noted that today, Amateur Radio exists among many more modes of communication than it did half a century ago, or even 20 years ago," ARRL said in its petition.

Now numbering some 378,000, Technician licensees comprise more than half of the US Amateur Radio population. ARRL said that after 17 years of experience with the current Technician license as the gateway to Amateur Radio, it's urgent to make it more attractive to newcomers, in part to improve upon science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education "that inescapably accompanies a healthy, growing Amateur Radio Service," ARRL asserted.

ARRL said its proposal is critical to developing improved operating skills, increasing emergency communication participation, improving technical self-training, and boosting overall growth in the Amateur Service, which has remained nearly inert at about 1% per year.

The Entry-Level License Committee determined that the current Technician class question pool already covers far more material than necessary for an entry-level exam to validate expanded privileges.

ARRL told the FCC that it would continue to refine examination preparation and training materials aimed at STEM topics, increase outreach and recruitment, work with Amateur Radio clubs, and encour-

age educational institutions to utilize Amateur Radio in STEM and other experiential learning programs.

"ARRL requests that the Commission become a partner in this effort to promote Amateur Radio as a public benefit by making the very nominal changes pro-

posed herein in the Technician class license operating privileges," the petition concluded.

NNNN

Sponsored by the American Radio Relay League



Hamfest 2018



The annual Chassell Hamfest
Amateur Radio Swap - n - Shop

When: April 28, 2018

Where: The Chassell VFW Post 6507

42103 Wilson Memorial Dr, Chassell, MI (US 41)

Time: 9-12 a.m. (EDT)

(Those with tables can set up at 8am.)

Admission: \$3/person

Tables: \$10 (1 free admission included)

A chance to win valuable Door Prizes with each admission ticket stub

Estate Items For Sale

Refreshments and food available

Talk-in Frequency 146.880 w/PL tone of 100 hz

Table info contact Jeff W9GY 906-337-4158 jeffw9gy@pasty.net

Sponsored also by your **THREE LOCAL AREA AMATEUR RADIO CLUBS:**

BCRA, CCRAA, & KCRA

ARLB032 W1AW 2018 Spring Operating Schedule

ZCZC AG08
 QST de W1AW
 ARRL Bulletin 8 ARLB008
 From ARRL Headquarters
 Newington CT March 12, 2018
 To all radio amateurs

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1400 UTC to 1600 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM ET)
 1700 UTC to 1945 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET)

(Station closed 1600 to 1700 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM ET))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2000 UTC (4 PM ET)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2000 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
2100 " (5 PM ET)	CWb	Daily
2200 " (6 PM ET)	DIGITAL	Daily
2300 " (7 PM ET)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
2300 " "	CWf	Tue, Thu
0000 " (8 PM ET)	CWb	Daily
0100 " (9 PM ET)	DIGITAL	Daily
0145 " (9:45 PM ET)	VOICE	Daily
0200 " (10 PM ET)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0200 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
0300 " (11 PM ET)	CWb	Daily

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 2230 UTC (6:30 PM ET), 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 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Thursdays and 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Fridays.

Audio from W1AW's CW code practices, and CW/digital/phone bulletins is available using EchoLink via the W1AW Conference Server named "W1AWBDCT." The monthly W1AW Qualifying Runs are presented here as well. The CW/digital/phone 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.

FCC licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1400 UTC to 1600 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM ET), and then from 1700 UTC to 1945 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur license or a photocopy.

on page 90 in the March 2018 issue of QST or on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule> .
NNNN

The complete W1AW Operating Schedule may be found

ARRL MICHIGAN SECTION NEWS

Greetings to the Amateurs of Michigan,
February 14,

I have really enjoyed meeting and talking with many of you during the last month while visiting various swaps and groups. I clearly appreciate the positive energy and support for our hobby, and look forward to future interaction with many of you.

It's important to point out that if you would like to become the Michigan Section Manager, my appointment to this post would not prevent you from running for the position. As stated in QST, this position will be open to candidates who file to be placed on the ballot coming up for the term beginning in July of 2018. Details can be found on the ARRL website.

DXCC Field Card Checkers have come up in many conversations recently.

Director Williams has chosen to appoint an additional Field Card Checker to augment the great work being done by the existing volunteers. There have been some changes in what Field Card Checkers can process, please review the DXCC section at the ARRL website for details. Additionally, consider extending the same hospitality to these volunteers at your next swap or club meeting.

Hospitality Acknowledgements

Thanks to these organizations and clubs for their outstanding hospitality shown to the MI ARRL staff:

Feb 3, 2018 HARA Shop & Swap – Negaunee, MI
Feb 10, 2018 Traverse City Hamfest

Michigan ARRL Section Staff Travel Plans

Feb 18, 2018 Livonia ARC Swap & Shop – (WA8EFK)
Mar 17, 2018 Crossroads Hamfest, Kalamazoo, MI – K8JK
Apr 28, 2018 Chassell Hamfest, Chassell, MI – K8JK
Apr 29, 2018 GMARC 1st Annual Hamfest, Madison Hgts, MI – K8JK
May 5, 2018 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 January 2018 Station Activity Reports (SAR) for January 2018:

WB8WKQ 220, K8RDN 119, WB8TQZ 107, K8ED 101, N5MKY 87, KE8CEH 58, WD8MWD

38, K8BKM 34, WB8RCR 10, KC8NFN 3

Total SAR reported: 777

Public Service Honor Roll (PSHR) for January 2018:

KC8YVF 176, WD8MWD 123, N5MKY 115, WD8USA 114,

K8RDN 110, WB8TQZ 110, WB8RCR 105, K8ED 90,

WB8WKQ 90, KE8CEH 80, N8OSL 50, KC8NFN 33,

KB8RCR5

Brass Pounder's League (BPL): None

Net traffic for January 2018:

Michigan Amateur Communications System 236

The Michigan Net 281 Southeastern Michigan Traffic Net 318

Michigan VHF Traffic Net 86 Upper Peninsula Net 1293

Michigan Traffic Net 137 District 3 ARPSC Net 36

Saginaw County ARES Net 32

Michigan Digital Traffic Net 70

Michigan Amateur Radio Public Service Corps 49

Northern Lower Eastern Upper Peninsula Net 217

Michigan ARES D-Star net 103

Luce County ARES Net 34 Chelsea ARC Net 22

Red Cross Net of Greater Grand Rapids 7 District 8 Emergency Net 5 1.25

Total net traffic reported: 429 Total Volunteer Dollar

Value for January 2018: \$ 41,052 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.

Final Thoughts

Congratulations to Bob Hitchens K8VQC, and his new bride, Mary Kruger W8MCK on the recent marriage! It's been my privilege to know both of them for a number of years, and to work with them on a number of ARES and CERT events.

I'm looking forward to running into you on the air!

73

Jim K8JK

ARRL Michigan Section

Section Manager: James A Kvochick, K8JK

k8jk@arrl.org

Dales Tales

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

"So close and yet so far" as the 3Y0Z effort to put Bouvet on the air again has been delayed. The other interesting news is that the 3Y0I team who also has plans to activate Bouvet is continuing that effort. 3Y0I had delayed their schedule to allow 3Y0Z the earlier opportunity to activate. This may get very interesting as the 3Y0Y team turned down the offer from 3Y0I to collaborate for the effort.

A word about our QSL Bureaus. Two Bureaus serve the Great Lakes division as we fall into two different call areas, 4-Land and 8-Land.

Each bureau operates slightly differently, but each provided the same service, getting our foreign QLS delivered to us. NO, it is not totally automatic; you must provide the bureaus with postage and/or envelopes to get your cards delivered. Each group will let you know the method they prefer. Still it all works very well and we owe a debt of gratitude to the many folks that work together to make this happen.

Basically, it typically works like this: the incoming cards are received at a central point for the respective call areas and are then sorted and bulk shipped to "Letter Managers". The Letter Manager completes the sorting process and stuffs the cards into individual envelopes we supply and mails them to us when enough cards have been accumulated. Sounds simple but keep in mind that there is an individual letter manager for the first letter in the suffix of the recipient's call. Mine is the "E" manager for example. 10 call areas times 26 letters means as many as 260 people sorting across the USA and each Letter Manager may have a couple hundred envelopes on hand. They really do deserve some thanks, don't they?

To learn more about the QSL Bureau service in the Great Lakes Division check out the following URLs. The 8th Bureau has its own web page and the 4th is linked to the ARRL page.

8th AREA: http://arrl-greatlakes.org/8th_bureau.htm

4th AREA: <http://www.arrl.org/incoming-qsl-service>

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

February saw me attending more club meetings than normal. I was trying to get around and discuss some of the changes at ARRL. Thank you all for your hospitality and your willingness to discuss issues of importance to you and the League.

I was especially pleased to get your reactions on some of the work the various committees are doing on advancing education, both for our newest hams, and for all of us.

I'd say more, but for the past several days I have been working mostly full-time with the Red Cross on the Disaster Relief operation for the Ohio River flooding.

So these brief remarks will have to do for this month. A quick note on ham radio communications. There has been no communication outage, so ham radio has not played a role in this effort.

But I was impressed with the preparation and coordination of the ARES teams locally and at the state level to make sure they were ready to respond if necessary. There will be communications needs in some future disaster. We just don't know where or when. So keep your batteries charged.

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

CONVENTIONS: Hamvention® will host the ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention this year, by special request, May 18-20. Be sure to get it on your calendar. Hamvention's new venue in Xenia worked well last year and another building has been added for vendor use. Check out their web site for the latest information. <http://hamvention.org/>

In even numbered years, the Great Lakes Division's three Sections normally host their individual State Conventions. Kentucky's ARRL State Convention will be hosted by the Greater Louisville Hamfest in Shepherdsville, KY on September 8, 2018. See <http://louisvillehamfest.com/>

Michigan's State ARRL Convention will be held at HamCon Brooklyn, MI on October 6-7.

<http://glhamcon.org/>.

While not a state convention, Ohio will be holding the Ohio Section Conference in conjunction with the Columbus Hamfest on August 4, 2018.

See <http://columbushamfest.com/>

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.

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
4/28/18	RCARA Tailgate	Ashland, KY
4/28/18	Chassell Hamfest	Chassell, MI
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.

73,

Dale Williams WA8EFK
Director
Great Lakes Division



ARRL PROPAGATION BULLETIN

QST de W1AW
Propagation Forecast Bulletin 11 ARLP011
From Tad Cook, K7RA Seattle, WA
March 16, 2018
To all radio amateurs

No sunspots were observed between March 2 and March 15. One sunspot made a brief appearance on March 2, after a blank sun on March 1.

Average daily sunspot number dropped from 1.6 to zero this week, and average daily solar flux rose fractionally from 67.6 to 67.7. We'll be watching the latest sunspot appearance to see if it is as fleeting as the March 2 sunspot.

Geomagnetic indicators rose slightly, with planetary A index increasing from 5.1 to 7.1, and mid-latitude A index rose from 4.6 to 5.7.

Predicted solar flux is 69 on March 16 to 23, 72 on March 24 to 29, 70 on March 30, 68 on March 31 through April 11, 70 on April 12, 72 on April 13 to 25, 70 on April 26, and 68 on April 27 to 29.

Predicted planetary A index is 15 on March 16 to 18, 10 on March 19, 5 on March 20 to 22, then 8, 5, 8 and 20 on March 23 to 26, 5 on March 27 to 29, 8 on March 30 and 31, 5 on April 1 to 9, then 8, 10, 14, 16 and 20 on April 10 to 14, 5 on April 15 and 16, then 12, 18, 10, 5, 8 and 20 on April 17 to 22, then 5 on April 23 to 25, 8 on April 26 and 27, and 5 on April 28 and 29.

Carl Luetzelshwab, K9LA has a comment about solar flux and an observation from NOJK in last week's bulletin ARLP010:

"Jon Jones, NOJK said Sometimes the solar flux numbers don't correlate well to the actual ionization.

What Jon said is more the norm than the exception, as solar radiation is not the only factor that contributes to the amount of ionization at any given location. There are two other factors. One is geomagnetic field activity (the K index), which can modify the amount of ioniza-

tion. The other is an event in the lower atmosphere that couples up to the ionosphere, which also can modify the amount of ionization and which is a very hot topic with researchers nowadays.

The bottom line is if today's solar flux is higher than yesterday's, it does not necessarily mean that the ionosphere is better today - it could be worse. The result of all of this is that we have monthly median propagation predictions (they are statistical over a month's time frame), not daily propagation predictions."

This is from Tamitha Skov on early Thursday in a message titled "Solarstorm Mania all over the news":

"How ironic is it that only one week after I talk about significant advances towards making Space Weather a household name, we get smacked in the face with a bogus story about a massive solar storm threatening to swallow the Earth? From what I've heard, this story began innocently enough-- someone misread an infographic on a Russian space weather website. But then the mistake went viral. Over the past few days, reports spread around the globe, sending people into a panic. I've watched major news agencies publish the story, only to print embarrassing retractions a day later. All of this simply because they ran with a story they did not have the expertise to fact check. I hate to admit it, but just as I thought we were doing so well, I am reminded of how far we have yet to go.

"This week our Sun is indeed sending us a solar storm, but it's not all fire and brimstone. It's the weak, wispy kind we continue to expect as we approach solar minimum. The fact that the storm is weak actually brings us some good news. For amateur radio operators and emergency communicators already wrestling with poor radio propagation conditions on Earth's day side, communications might improve on Earth's night side, especially with auroral propagation.

GPS users should also enjoy the quiet conditions, but be aware for glitches, especially after sunset and at higher

latitudes where aurora is active. As for aurora sightings during this weak storm, reports are coming in from Norway, Sweden, and Finland as well as from Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan Canada. In the U.S.A. aurora has been sighted as far south as Michigan and Minnesota.

"While all of these solar storm effects are surely noteworthy, they are hardly catastrophic or even massive. So as far as all the hype?

I think we can safely put that story to bed."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V-DK43Rx0Xo>

"Geomagnetic activity forecast for the period March 16 to Apr 10, 2018 from F.K. Janda, OK1HH.

Geomagnetic field will be:

Quiet on March 20, 24, 28 and 29, April 1 and 2, 4 to 9

Mostly quiet on March 21, 30 and 31, April 3 Quiet to unsettled on March 19, 22 and 23, 25, 27 Quiet to active on March 16 to 18 Active to disturbed on March 26

Solar wind will intensify on March 16 to 18, (19 and 20, 25 and 26, April 3 to -?).

Remark:

- Parenthesis means lower probability of activity enhancement."

This is from Jeff, N8II from West Virginia on March 15:

"There probably are a record number of Dxpeditions to the 'Terrible T's' and other countries from Africa, so named because several of the African countries that begin with T (former French) were some of the rarest countries.

Today on 15 meters TN5R, Congo Republic, TY7C, Benin, and TJ2TT, Cameroon were all operating 15M phone at the same time as were the returning Lithuanians on Annobon Island, 3C0W. I worked Annobon, failed to get Cameroon, and had already worked the other two. In addition on 15M phone were 5V7SM, Togo (worked) and 9X9PS from Rwanda, quite a line up.

At times, signals from Africa have been totally unreadable or very weak on 15M, but the solar wind picked up today raising the MUF despite nearly identical SFI (69 today) compared to other days this week.

Also, an expedition to PJ5 was unreadable on 15M CW the past 2 days, was S9 at 1400Z today. The best signals for the most part from Africa were in the 1400Z hour also, except for Annobon who was louder around 1600Z. I have logged the Benin and Congo groups on several bands including 80M, but the MUF has been too low to hear any of them on 12 or 10 meters. The only rare DX worked this week on 12M was XROYD, Easter Is. on CW who has also been logged on 80 through 15M.

Conditions on 80 are considerably worse than in Dec. and Jan., but good enough to still work some of the Dxpeditions. 160M signals have been very weak, but 40 and 30 meters have improved as the night time MUF has risen due to seasonal change. I finally logged Annobon on 30M today after quite a bit of calling during which they were good copy to loud but running many Japanese and EU stations. I would guess their 30M JA/USA QSO ratio was at least 25 to 1 up until today when they were S9 at 2000Z (my sunset is 2318Z), louder than yesterday. So, obviously they had a very good JA path for several hours, way before JA sunrise until way after their sunrise.

20 meters continues to be my best band for DX by far; I also logged A5A in Bhutan around 1500Z on CW today. EU signals are generally moderate to fairly loud all morning long and SW EU stays in to about 2200Z on good days. The morning short path to Australia appears to be closed to very marginal most days. 17 meters is often usable to Europe and the Middle East around 1400-1700Z, but signals are weaker and often exclude northern and eastern EU."

Mark Lunday, WD4ELG in Greensboro, North Carolina has sent some interesting reports on his experiments with QRSS mode. What is it?

Extremely slow speed CW, so slow that a single dit may last for 60 seconds. Using a computer sound card and special QRSS software, stations running power levels as low as 10 microwatts can be extracted out of the noise.

See:

<http://www.w0ch.net/grss/grss.htm>

[http://dropbox.curry.com/docs/2012 The world of QRS S.pdf](http://dropbox.curry.com/docs/2012%20The%20world%20of%20QRS%20S.pdf)

For more information concerning radio propagation, see



the ARRL Technical Information Service 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 DX NEWS

QST de W1AW
DX Bulletin 12 ARLD012
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT March 15, 2018
To all radio amateurs

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by KK9A, ON4EI, W2TT, 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.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, 9Y. Rich, KE1B and Anna, W6NN will be QRV as 9Y4/home calls from March 19 to 31 from Tobago, IOTA SA-009. Activity will be holiday style on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. This includes an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest. QSL to home calls.

BHUTAN, A5. Zorro, JH1AJT, Jin, JF1IST and Champ, E21EIC are QRV as A5A until March 18. Activity is on 160

ARRL bulletins are at <http://arrl.org/bulletins>.

Sunspot numbers for March 8 through 14, 2018 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, and 0, with a mean of 0. 10.7 cm flux was 66.6, 67.5, 67.7, 67.8, 68.1, 68.6, and 67.7, with a mean of 67.7. Estimated planetary A indices were 4, 12, 12, 6, 3, 4, and 9, with a mean of 7.1.

Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 3, 10, 9, 7, 2, 3, and 6, with a mean of 5.7.

NNNN

to 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. There is a focus on using FT8 as well. QSL via JH1AJT.

IRELAND, EI. Oliver, ON4EI will be QRV as EI8GQB from March 18 to 28. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using mainly green energy. He will be active as EI7T in the upcoming CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest. For QSL see QRZ.com .

NEW CALEDONIA, FK. Alex, 5B4ALX will be QRV as FK/5B4ALX from March 20 to April 4. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and JT65. This includes an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest. QSL via IZ4AMS.

FRENCH GUIANA, FY. Hartwig, DL7BC is QRV as FY/DL7BC/p near Cayenne until March 26. He plans to be active as TO2BC in the BARTG RTTY contest and the upcoming CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest. QSL to home call.

JERSEY, GJ. Kazu, JK3GAD is QRV as MJOCFW until March 18. He will be active as MJ5Z in the Russian DX contest. QSL via LoTW.

HONDURAS, HR. Dave, VE3VSM is QRV as VE3VSM/HR9 from Roatan Island, IOTA NA-057, until March 19. Activity is holiday style on 20 and 15 meters using CW. This includes being an entry in the Russian DX contest. QSL direct to home call.

MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1. Take, JG8NQJ is QRV as JG8NQJ/JD1 for three months. Activity is in his spare time on the HF bands using CW and RTTY. QSL via JA8CJY.

AUSTRIA, OE. Operators RW3AH and HB9RB will be QRV as 4U1A in the Russian DX contest from one of the stations at the Vienna International Centre. QSL through UA3DX.

ALAND ISLANDS, OH0. While preparing for the 2018 World Radio Team Championship, operators OH6KZP and OH6UM will be QRV as OH0X in the Russian DX contest. QSL via OH2TA.

CURACAO, PJ2. Andreas, DK5ON is QRV as PJ2/DK5ON until March 27. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters, and possibly 160 meters, using CW, SSB, RTTY and other digital modes. This includes being an entry in the Russian DX contest and the upcoming CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest. QSL to home call.

BONAIRE, PJ4. John, KK9A will be QRV as PJ4/KK9A from March 19 to 25. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. He plans to be QRV as PJ4R in the upcoming CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest as a Single Op/All Band entry. QSL via WD9DZV.

CAMEROON, TJ. A group of operators are QRV as TJ3TT until March 29. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL direct to I2YSB.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO, TN. Members of the Tifariti Gang and DXFriends are QRV as TN5R from Brazzaville until March 19. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via EA5RM.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, VP5. Ross, W2TT and John, AF3K will be QRV as VP5/home calls from Caicos, IOTA NA-002, from March 20 to 27.

Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, FT8 and MSK on 6 meters. This includes being active as VP5P in the upcoming CQ World Wide WPX SSB contest. QSL VP5P via W2TT.

INDIA, VU. Special call AU2ODI is QRV until March 19 to celebrate the 2018 East India Ham Meet at Puri Beach, Odisha. Activity is on 40, 20 and 15 meters. QSL via VU2GIN.

MEXICO, XE. Special event station 6E3MAYA will be QRV from March 17 to 21 from several regions in Mexico to commemorate Maya culture. QSL via XE3N.

BURKINA FASO, XT. Harald, DF2WO will be QRV as XT2AW from March 19 to April 10. Max, DK1MAX will join him and be active as XT2MAX from March 23 to April 2. Activity will be on the HF bands, including 6 meters, using CW and FT8. QSL XT2AW via M0OXO and XT2MAX direct to DK1MAX.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The BARTG HF RTTY Contest, Russian DX Contest, QRP 80-Meter CW Fox Hunt, NCCC RTTY Sprint, NCCC CW Sprint, AGCW VHF/UHF CW Contest, Louisiana QSO Party, Virginia QSO Party, Feld Hell Sprint and the UBA 80-Meter Spring SSB Contest are all on tap for this upcoming weekend.

The Bucharest Contest and Run for the Bacon QRP CW Contest are scheduled for March 19.

The CWops Mini-CWT CW Test, Phone Fray and QRP 40-Meter CW Fox Hunt are scheduled for March 21.

The ARRL International Grid Chase runs during all of 2018.

Please see March 2018 QST, page 85, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest Web Sites for details.



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/>

ABOUT OUR CLUB....

Club Officers

President:

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

Vice President

Scott Jarmusch, KA8TFF

Secretary:

Joe Ferris, KC9TQR
irferris@borderlandnet.net

Treasurer:

Debbie Garbowski, KD8VTS
 (906) 284 -2450
kd8vts@gmail.com

Editor:

Tom Heyboer, KC8TH
 (906) 779-0481
Heyboer.tom@gmail.com

Web Editor:

Tom Heyboer, KC8TH
 (906) 779-0481
Heyboer.tom@gmail.com

Radio License Exam Contact Persons:

Mike Boileau: 906 563 1350
 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.