

# MICH-A-CON RF

IRON MOUNTAIN, MICHIGAN

April, 2008

## IN THIS ISSUE:

Words from the President:  
Tom, W8JWN

Lee Michaud N8LT - Silent Key

Calendar of Events

Club Activities

Repeaters

Show the Club Colors

Shuttle Craft S.K. Enterprise to Launch

Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club  
Membership Application/Renewal Form

V.E. Testing

Ten New Satellites

Lou Gembolis - Legislative Action  
Coordinator for Michigan

Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club  
Minutes April 8th 2008

Club Meetings

Club Officers

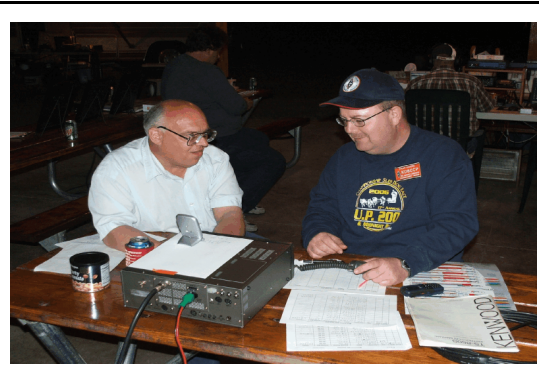
Reminders

Visit the ARRL's web site at  
<http://www.arrl.org>

## Words from the President

Tom, W8JWN

How many of you out there have a Living Will? Well, actually a "Living Will" for all of your radio gear? In the past several weeks, I have been actively involved in gathering, researching, advertising, cleaning, packing, and shipping equipment for the relatives of two deceased hams from the area. It has been a real job! I didn't realize how much work it would be to sell items for the estate.



Lee, N8LT works the GOTA station with Steve KD8CCP

The work has just started after the equipment has been removed. Next, you have to visit various web sites on the Net to find the value of the gear. Google has been a great help in finding present or past selling prices for radio gear. Also, QRZ.com, eHamnet.com, and (my personal favorite) QTH.com. are great sites for listing ham radio equipment. I avoid Ebay. Prices always seem to be inflated. Of course, you can also use our club web page.

After deciding on a price for the item, you can list it on one of the four mentioned sites. I have had excellent success with QTH.com. Scott, KA9FOX from Lacrosse, Wisconsin, has a beautiful site. It comes highly recommended by many hams. I have sold five pieces of gear in the past week on that site. He only asks for a donation of 2% of the final price if you sell the gear.

Once the item has been sold and the money order is in hand, packing and shipping become the next labor. I have been using FedEx rather than UPS. They are open during the day and there is no waiting in line. Shipping charges have been reasonable as well

**Having gone through efforts, I have realized that it would have been a great help for me if the SK had left a list of equipment with the possible value for each item and where the manuals for each piece of gear were stored. This list could be updated each year. Also, on the list should have been directions for the surviving family as to who should help them sell the gear.**

The above was in a past "Words" column in the newsletter. I attached it again to these "Words" because of the recent death of one of the club's cherished members. Lee Michaud, N8LT.

It was quite a shock to receive a phone call from Skip informing me of Lee's obituary in the paper. I hadn't seen the paper before Skip's call. After his call, I got online and checked *The Daily News*. It was right there in front of me on the computer monitor.

Lee will be greatly missed by all of us. His good friend since high school, Gary, K4FMX had been e-mailing Lee quite often this past winter. Lee had helped Gary rewire his house on the farm in Aurora this past summer. I called Gary with the news and he was shocked as well.

I can't count the times that Lee had repaired equipment for me and other club members over the past 40 years. He got my first linear amplifier going by rewinding a bad transformer. He had been working on my old Icom 701 for the past 6 years. Eventually, he got it working but it still had stability issues that he was trying to correct right up to his death.

Last Thursday, the 24<sup>th</sup> of April, Mike Bray, Bob Meyers, and I went to Lee's QTH to remove club equipment and some of our personal gear that Lee had been working on before his passing. I found the Icom 701 in his front room with the covers off. It looked like he was trying to get it ready for Field Day.

Field Day will not be the same without Lee there to raise those wire antennas high into the trees with his trusty slingshot! His presence will be missed around the GOTA station as well.

Lee was a charter member of the Mich-A-Con ARC. He never took a break from the club like so many of have done over the years. He was an active member for 40 years.

His key was silenced at too young an age. Rest in Peace good friend.

## Lee Michaud, N8LT

KINGSFORD — Lee T. Michaud, 64, of Breitung Township, died Sunday, April 13, 2008, at his home.

He was born on June 30, 1943, in Iron Mountain , the son of the late Thomas and Helmi (Eckloff) Michaud. Lee graduated from King sford High School in 1961 and has been a lifelong resident of this area.

He received his bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Milwaukee School of Engineering. Lee worked for Pentair (Niagara of Wisconsin) and Champion International as an electrical engineer in their paper mills.

He was a member of the Amateur Radio Club and was an avid Ham radio operator. Lee enjoyed working on electrical equipment and radios. He was always working on something for someone. He had recently assisted the Rockets for Schools program at King sford High School .

He is survived by two brothers, Dean (Kathy) Michaud and Dale Michaud, both of King sford; nephews, Christopher Michaud, Robert Michaud and Don Whalen ; a niece, Valerie Whalen ; and many cousins.

Lee was preceded in death by his sister, Dawn Whalen .

Visitation will be Thursday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home.

A memorial service will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Rev. David Anderson will officiate.

Burial will be in the Quinnesec Cemetery

Condolences to the family of Lee Michaud may be expressed online at [www.ernashfuneralhomes.com](http://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com).

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the funeral arrangements.



Lee, N8LT : We will remember, always.

| <b>Mich-A-Con ARC Activities for May 2008</b> |                    |               |     |                                     |     |                      |
|---|--------------------|---------------|-----|-------------------------------------|-----|----------------------|
| SUN   | MON                | TUE           | WED | THUR                                | FRI | SAT                  |
|   |                    |               |     | 1<br>ARES                           | 2   | 3                    |
| 4<br>UPSN                                     | 5                  | 6             | 7   | 8<br>Weather<br>Spotter<br>Training | 9   | 10                   |
| 11<br>UPSN                                    | 12                 | 13<br>Meeting | 14  | 15<br>ARES                          | 16  | 17 Club<br>Breakfast |
| 18<br>UPSN                                    | 19                 | 20            | 21  | 22<br>ARES                          | 23  | 24                   |
| 25<br>UPSN                                    | 26<br>Memorial Day | 27            | 28  | 29<br>ARES                          | 30  | 31                   |
|   |                    |               |     |                                     |     |                      |

**Club Activities:**

The Upper Peninsula 2-meter Social Net (UPSN) is conducted every Sunday at 7:00 PM Central Time on the 146.850 repeater. Dennis, K8SWX will facilitate the link from our repeater to the other participating stations via Echo Link. (Note: Dennis is currently working on a problem with the Link and therefore the net may not be held on our local repeater.)

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 Amateur Radio Club meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Dickinson County Library. Visitors and prospective members are always welcome!

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

**NOAA Weather Spotter Training will take place on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 CDT in Iron Mountain in the Lower Level of the Sheriff's Office.**

**Contact Matt Zika, NWS at (906)475-5212 with any questions.**

## REPEATERS:

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

Identifier: WA8FXQ/R IMT

| Output      | Offset | PL Tone |
|-------------|--------|---------|
| 146.850 MHz | minus  | -----   |
| 444.850 MHz | plus   | -----   |

Visit the Mich-A-Con Web Site:

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

Both repeaters have an auto patch with a toll restriction. The auto patch on the 2 meter repeater can be used with permission. The 440 auto patch is for club member use only.

### Show the Club Colors.

From:

Randy KB9ZES

Are you looking to have your T-Shirt, Jacket or Sweatshirt imprinted with the **Mich-A-Con** club logo?

Now you can.... Bring your article of clothing to the next meeting and Randy, KB9ZES will get them to Shirt Tales to have the club logo imprinted on them. A minimum of 12 items will be needed to receive a discount. Make sure you mark your article so you get the right one back!

When they are done Randy will bring them to the meeting and you can pay for Shirt Tales expense at that time.

Payment due when you pick up the item please!!

## Shuttle Craft S.K. Enterprise to Launch

from:

*The Standing Wave* May 2008

Greg, KI8AF editor

The annual lift off of the S.K. Enterprise is scheduled for the end of May and for the first week of June. Your help is needed. Yes we need a total of at least 20 control operators. A control operator is needed on the S.K. Enterprise as well as one at Mission Control for each launch. Each mission only lasts about three hours so we aren't asking for lots of your time, just enough so the students can enjoy this annual project. We use two-meter simplex and the students do all of the work. The control operator is there to make it legal and pass on a hint or two if the student radio operator has a bit of trouble. Each mission runs from 10:15 to 13:15 on the following dates: May 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 30<sup>th</sup> and June 2, 3, 4, and 5<sup>th</sup>. Please email or call Greg KI8AF ([ki8af@arrl.net](mailto:ki8af@arrl.net)) or (906)225-1594 to help out.

### **Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club Membership Application/Renewal Form**

**Please remit dues to :**

**Dennis Beurjey, K8SWX  
612 Balsam Street  
Kingsford, Mi 49802**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Call Sign:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ARRL Member? Yes**  **No**

**Annual dues are due in January.**

**Please make check payable to Mich-A-Con ARC**

**Annual dues for Full Membership - Single \$20 \_\_\* Family \$30 \_\_ Repeater Only \$10 \_\_\*\***

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

\_\_\_\_\_

\* The dues for NEW members are prorated - you only pay for the remainder of the year! Please remit \$1.67 per month for a Single membership or \$2.50 per month for a Family membership.

\*\* If you are in an occasional or seasonal user of the repeater, please consider our Repeater Only Membership.

## V.E. TESTING:

**05/03 Iron Mountain:** 9:00 am central time, (arrive by 8:30 am) in the Dickinson County Library conference room. Contact Mark J. Lewis N8UKD, (906) 396-5519 , 412 Fairmount St. Kingsford, Mi 49802.

**05/15 Iron River:** 7:00 pm central time, Iron River Lutheran Church after the club meeting. NOTE: Pre-registration is required. Contact Dan Waters, AA9JG at (906) 265-4240 or by email: [dmwaters@ironriver.tv](mailto:dmwaters@ironriver.tv)

**07/12 Houghton:** 8:30 am eastern time, Room G04 in the basement of Wadsworth Residence Hall at MTU (Michigan Technological University). Free parking is available across Hwy U.S. 41 from this building. Contact Glen at (906) 482-7743 or by email: [wa8qnf@arrl.net](mailto:wa8qnf@arrl.net)

**07/12 Gladstone:** 9:00 am eastern time at the Gladstone Public Library. Testing begins at 9:00 am. Contact Howard W8HSJ at (906) 428-9476 or by email: [w8hsj@dcars.org](mailto:w8hsj@dcars.org)

**06/14 Marquette:** 8:30 am eastern time, (arrive by 8:00 am). Marquette County Health Department Building on U. S. 41 east of the Michigan State Police Post. Contact Rich Schwenke, N8GBA at (906) 249-3837 or email: [n8gba@chartermi.net](mailto:n8gba@chartermi.net). NOTE: Pre-registration is required.

Please arrive one-half hour early for test sessions to allow time for application processing. Testing applicants should bring two pieces of I.D. including one photo I.D. Original license and a clear copy of their license if applicable and a completed form 605 will also be needed. (Form 605 will be provided if needed.) Please bring pencils, calculator and the test fee of \$14.00. Please have the correct fee as examiners do not carry change. Please contact the individuals listed to confirm dates, times and locations.

## Ten New Satellites in Orbit

from:

Space Bulletin 004 ARLS004

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington, CT April 28, 2008

Ten satellites reached orbit April 28 aboard an Indian PSLV-C9 rocket launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Center. The primary payloads were India's CARTOSAT-2A and IMS-1 satellites. In addition to the NLS-5 and RUBIN-8 satellites, the rocket carried six CubeSat research satellites, all of which communicate using Amateur Radio frequencies. All spacecraft deployed normally and appear to be functional at this time.

The SEEDS satellite is designed and built by students at Japan's Nihon University. When fully operational, SEEDS will download telemetry in Morse code and 1200-baud FM AFSK packet radio at 437.485 MHz. The satellite also has Slow-Scan TV (SSTV) capability. Several stations have reported receiving SEEDS CW telemetry and the team would appreciate receiving more reports from amateurs at their ground station Web page.

AAUSAT-II is the creation of a student team at Aalborg University in Denmark. It will downlink scientific telemetry at 437.425 MHz using 1200 or 9600-baud packet.

Can-X2 is a product of students at the University of Toronto Institute for Aerospace

Studies, Space Flight Laboratory (UTIAS/SFL). Can-X2 will downlink telemetry at 437.478 MHz using 4 kbps GFSK, but the downlink will be active only when the satellite is within range of the Toronto ground station.

Compass-One was designed and built by students at Aachen University of Applied Sciences in Germany. The satellite features a Morse code telemetry beacon at 437.275 MHz. Compass-1 will also provide a packet radio data downlink, which will include image data, at 437.405 MHz.

Cute 1.7 + APDII is a satellite created by students at the Tokyo Institute of Technology. This satellite will not only provide telemetry, it will also offer a 9600-baud packet store-and-forward message relay with an uplink at 1267.6 MHz and a downlink at 437.475 MHz.

Delfi-C3 was designed and built by students at Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands. It includes an SSB/CW linear transponder. The satellite will be in telemetry-only mode for the first three months of the mission, after which it will be switched to transponder mode. Delfi-C3 downlinks 1200-baud packet telemetry at 145.870 MHz. The linear transponder, when activated, will have an uplink passband from 435.530 to 435.570 MHz and a corresponding downlink passband from 145.880 to 145.920 MHz.

**Louis A. Gembolis, KG8NK**  
**Appointed Legislative Action Coordinator for Michigan**

from:  
Weavers Words  
Jim Weaver, K8JE Director, ARRL Great Lakes Division

Since assuming the role of Great Lakes Division Legislative Action Chairman I have been bringing myself up to speed on fulfilling the position. Now that I have a couple of months under my belt we are beginning to move, again.

First and foremost I am very happy to announce that **Louis A. Gembolis, KG8NK of Ishpeming, MI** has accepted appointment as Legislative Action Coordinator (LAC) for Michigan. In this position, he will coordinate the activities of Legislative Action Assistants (LAA) in the Legislative Action Program (LAP) in Michigan. Lou is president of the Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association, AEC of Marquette County, Official Observer and MARS operator AAR5AD. He also directs over 100 amateurs in communicating for a major, annual dogsled race in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

What is the ARRL Legislative Action Program (LAP), you ask? It is a grass roots program that makes it possible for ARRL members to promote and protect Amateur Radio through coordinated, legitimate political action at the Federal government level. Federal Legislators frequently vote based upon their understanding of the wishes of their constituents. As a constituent, your opinion is important to them.

Members who would like to learn more about the LAP are invited to contact me at

[nb4k@arrrl.org](mailto:nb4k@arrrl.org) or [Director Weaver at k8je@arrrl.org](mailto:Director Weaver at k8je@arrrl.org).

73,

John D. Meyers, NB4K Great Lake Division Legislative Action Chairman



**Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club**  
**Minutes of the April 8, 2008 Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Martin, W8JWN, at 7:00 p.m.

**Secretary Report**

The minutes of the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting were read and approved.

**Treasurer Report**

No report, treasurer was absent

**Repeater Report**

WE Energies is expected to complete the installation of a small enclosure to house our repeater and packet equipment at their Pine Mountain site by the end of April.

**ARES**

No report

**Old Business**

Special Event –

Tom requested \$15 for postage to send QSL cards. A motion was made by Skip, KE9L, and seconded by Bob, WA8FXQ. Motion carried without dissent.

Field Day –

Mike, K8DDB, couldn't make a sketch of the Marion Park facility to show antenna supports because of the snow- covered area.

Trailer Fund –

Scott, KB9AVX, offered to troubleshoot and repair the Swan 350C.

Dalberto Estate Gear -

Tom gave an update on sold gear.

**New Business**

Jay Jennings passed away. Visitation is from 11 a.m. to noon tomorrow and funeral service is at noon. His son, Chuck, has offered all of Jay's radio equipment to the club.

Storm Spotter training will be held on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 CDT in the lower level of the sheriff's office.

Randy, KB9ZES, will be placing an order for club clothing with Shirt Tails. Interested club members should contact Randy.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

**For The Good Of The Order**

Attendees discussed their recent amateur radio related activities.

Submitted by Mike Bray Attendees

Mike Bray, K8DDB---Secretary

Bob Meyers, WA8FXQ

Tom Martin, W8JWN---President

Art Costa, KD8GLO

Scott Baker, KB9AVX

Skip Caswell, KE9L

Steve Johnson, KC8RYY

Randy Zandt, KB9ZES

Gavin Rodgers, KC9KVQ - Guest

# MICH-A-CON RF

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

## 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](mailto:tmartin@chartermi.net)

Vice President:  
Mike Boileau N9NBN  
(715) 251-3137  
[n9nbn@uplogon.com](mailto:n9nbn@uplogon.com)

Secretary:  
Mike Bray, K8DDB  
(906) 563-7020  
[mikebray@chartermi.net](mailto:mikebray@chartermi.net)

Treasurer:  
Dennis Beurjey, K8SWX  
(906) 771-1996  
[dbeurjey@msn.com](mailto:dbeurjey@msn.com)

## Reminders:

Club dues for the year 2008 were payable on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Please use the Membership Application/Renewal form in this newsletter when paying your dues. Checks should be made payable to Mich-A-Con Arc and sent to our Treasurer, Dennis Beurjey, K8SWX, at the address listed on the form. Thank-you for supporting your club!

The monthly meeting for May is on Tuesday the 13th at 7:00 PM in Dickinson County Library.

Mich-A-Con RF is published by the Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club of Iron Mountain. Send articles to: Steve Skauge  
[KD8CCP@arrl.net](mailto:KD8CCP@arrl.net)  
Permission is hereby granted for reproduction of material with proper credit to the author and Mich-A-Con





