

# Mich-A-Con RF

Iron Mountain, Michigan

April 2011

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## Words from the President

In this issue, you will find the new proposals for a change in our club constitution. Please study them and be prepared to vote on them as written, or add suggestions at the May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## Field Day

We are in need of the following for Field Day on June 25-26 at Marion Park in Norway: one laptop computer for Station #2. A second computer for the GOTA station would be nice but not necessary. Transceivers are needed for Station #2 and the GOTA (Get On the Air) station. I will have my Icom 706 MKII G for Station #1.

The N3FJP Field Day logging program will be demonstrated at the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. All FD operators should attend this meeting. Speaking of operators, hopefully we will have several on that weekend. Remember, newly licensed Technicians can operate the GOTA station to give the club bonus points. You can also operate one of the main stations, if a control operator is present. I will be the control operator for the GOTA station. W8JWN will be the GOTA call.

Revised amendments to the club Constitution based on input at the April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## ARTICLE VII of the Constitution

### *Amendments:*

***Section 1---This Constitution or the Bylaws may be amended by a favorable vote from a majority of the total membership. Proposals for amendments shall be submitted in writing at the regular meeting and may not be voted on until the next regular meeting, provided all members have been notified by mail of the intent to amend the constitution and/or Bylaws at a specific meeting.***

### **Proposal #1**

#### **Proposed Section 6 under**

#### **REMOVAL OF MEMBERS**

**(1)-** Any member whose Federal Communications Commission-issued Amateur Radio license is suspended or revoked with cause by the FCC shall be automatically removed from membership in the Mich-A-Con ARC.

**(2) -** Any member who operates his/her station in violation of Part 97 of the FCC Rules and Regulations, and who does not cease and desist from the aforementioned violations, may be removed from membership in the Mich-A-Con ARC.

**(3) -** Any member who causes adverse publicity to Amateur Radio or the Mich-A-Con ARC may be removed from membership in the Mich-A-Con ARC.

**(4)-** Whenever a charge is made against a member that could result in his or her expulsion from membership, the Board of Directors shall investigate such charge. If the Board determines to proceed with the matter, the member involved shall be notified and given the opportunity to appear before the Board or, at the member's election, to respond in writing and answer or defend against such charge. After the member has been given reasonable opportunity to appear and defend, the Board of Directors shall act upon the charge and by a majority vote of all members of the Board either reject the charge, continue membership

upon stated conditions, or expel. A **member** charged with conduct unbecoming a **member** of this **Club** may be expelled by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present at a meeting of the membership, if the **Board of Directors** has found the charges are sustained by its investigations.

**(5)-**The expelled member may apply, in person before the Board of Directors, for membership in the club one year after expulsion.

## Proposal #2

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The **Board of Directors, consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer**, shall be the governing body of the **Club** and as such shall formulate and be responsible for all matters of policy. It shall review all reports of conduct unbecoming a **member** of the **Club** and, if sustained, submit the matter to the body of the **Club** at a regular meeting.

Please attend the May 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting to vote on the proposed changes to the club's constitution !

#### V.E. TESTING:

**08/06 Iron Mountain: 9:00am central time, (arrive by 8:30am) Dickinson County Library(conference room), contact Mark J. Lewis N8UKD, (906) 396-5519 - 412 Fairmount St. Kingsford, Mi 49802.**

**06/11 Marquette: 8:30am eastern time, (arrive by 8:00am) Marquette County Health Dept. Bldg,U.S. 41 just east of the Michigan State Police Post. Contact Rich Schwenke, N8GBA at 906 249-3837or e-mail: [n8gba@chartermi.net](mailto:n8gba@chartermi.net).**

**07/9 Houghton: 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@arrrl.net](mailto:wa8qnf@arrrl.net) if you have questions.**

**7/9 Gladstone: Sponsor: Delta County Amateur Radio Society Time:10:00 AM (Walk-ins welcome) Contact: Howard St. John (906) 428-9476 email: [hsj99@charter.net](mailto:hsj99@charter.net) 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.**

## Paul Builds and Antenna Launcher

From an email sent by :

Paul, KD8KUF

Friday, May 6, 2011 10:55 AM

FYI, I built two of these PVC, air powered antenna launchers:

<http://www.antennalaunchers.com/csv19/index.html> I'll have one of them at field day.

The trickiest part of building this is drilling the holes in the ends of the two end caps. The instructions recommend using a lathe but I don't have access to one but I do have a shop full of woodworking tools so I built me a jig. I use the jig with my hand held router with a pattern following bit to cut the holes and it works great. Most of the antenna launcher building time is cutting, sanding and gluing PVC. The instructions are very detailed and should be studied before beginning assembly. Sanding both of the mating PVC surfaces before gluing is important for strength.

The thing works great as detailed on the [eham.net](http://www.eham.net) reviews (link from above). I'd be happy to loan my jig to any ham (it's not a kids toy) that wants to build one of these.



## **Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Meeting**

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

### **Secretary Report**

The minutes of the March 8<sup>th</sup> meeting were read and approved.

### **Treasurer Report**

Membership Dues Received: \$70.00

Checks were written to: March 28<sup>th</sup> to AT&T for \$23.54

Balances as of April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011:

Checking - \$ 96.80

Regular Savings - \$1,193.56 of which \$361.82 is in the Trailer Fund.

Repeater Savings - \$1,126.50

Petty Cash - \$15.00, President Tom made a \$1.00 donation for a balance of \$16.00

We now have 35 paid members for 2011.

### **Repeater Report**

No problems to report. Nate Mieras reported that he made and tested a linking cable. The cable needs more testing.

### **ARES**

The net has been meeting regularly.

### **Old Business**

Paul Schultz reported that the storage box has been de-identified and placed on the ground behind his business, Schultz Equipment in Iron Mountain. The box is on the southwest corner of the property adjacent to Terminal Ave. It was agreed to leave the box there as opposed to a more secure location such as Ford Airport.

Paul will organize the trailer committee and other volunteers to build storage shelves inside the box at no cost to the club. Dimensions of the shelves were discussed briefly. The committee will decide on the shelf dimensions during construction but will basically be 2' deep on each side of a 3 ½' isle with room underneath for the generator and tower sections. Burt Armbrust Sr will purchase a master lock and the contents of the trailer will be moved to the box and the trailer will be put up for sale at a price no lower than \$1,500.00 Trailer title was given to Paul for safe keeping.

President Tom discussed an amendment to the club's constitution at length with input from most members in attendance. Proposed Section 6 under removal of members were three descriptions of violations that could result in a member's removal from the club. The "assessed a fine and penalty" by the FCC under provision one will be removed. The members agreed that a sealed vote should take place at a regular club meeting to decide if a member should be removed or not as opposed to the executive committee making a decision.

Majority of yes or no votes will determine if the member will be removed or not. Abstain votes will not be counted. Example: With 12 members attending a regular club meeting, 5 vote yes and 4 vote no and 3 abstain. Yes votes win and member is removed. A tie vote would result in non- removal of the member. A fourth provision will be added stating that a removed member can reapply for club membership to the board after one year. The revised amendment will be presented at the May meeting and voted on at the June meeting.

Paul Schultz will make inquiries to get a 35-40' lift for the beam antenna for field day and report at the May meeting.

### New Business

President Tom detailed callingpost.com website which the club has been a member of for several years. The system allows subscriber to record a message and then schedule that message to dial out and played to all phone numbers specified. It's a time saving method to get a consistent message out by phone to all club members. Some members provided new or revised home and cell phone numbers that Tom will update. The executive committee and the ARES coordinator Dennis, K8SWX will be given access.

### For the Good of the Order

Attendees reported on their recent activities.

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Submitted by Paul Schultz

### Attendees

Tom Martin, W8JWN---President  
Art Costa, KD8GLO  
Nate Mieras, KD8GLP  
Tom Heyboer, KC8TH  
Berry Perron, KC9NFT  
Joe Komblevich – KB8ETK  
Red Maxwell – KC9KWS  
Paul Schultz – KD8KUF---Secretary  
Scott Jarmusch, KA8TFF---Vice President  
Burt Armbrust Sr., WB8EBS---Treasurer  
Perry Amicangelo  
Dana Bey, KD8POR  
Joe Ferris, KC9TQR  
Al Poquette, K9ECG

### **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 ea.

If ordering by mail please include a SASE along with your payment.



## **Balloon Carrying Amateur Radio**

from:

*Weaver's Words,*

May 4<sup>th</sup> 2011

James E Weaver, K8JE editor

(Jim is the ARRL Great Lakes Division Director and can be reached via email at [k8je@arrl.org](mailto:k8je@arrl.org))

While on the hamfest tour in Ashland, KY this past weekend I had the rather unique opportunity to participate in a test of an Amateur Radio balloon uprising. A balloon carrying a 2M simplex repeater was launched from Morehead University. Elijah Brooks, KJ4FZX, son of Kentucky SM Jim, KY4Z came to the 'fest prepared to operate through the repeater. Soon after the appointed launch time he connected his HT to a homebrew fox hunting Yagi and began to search the skies. A few minutes of searching brought results. After talking through the repeater for a few minutes, he offered me the opportunity to say hello to those on frequency.

Neat job, gang. Thanks Elijah.

## James McLaughlin, WA2EWE/T6AF killed in Afganistan:

from an email:

by Tom, W8JWN

<http://www.arrl.org/news/view/james-mclaughlin-wa2ewe-t6af-killed-by-afghan-pilot>

James McLaughlin, WA2EWE/T6AF, was one of several killed in Kabul, Afghanistan on Wednesday, April 27. News sources say that eight American troops and a US contractor died Wednesday after an Afghan military pilot opened fire during a meeting in an operations room of the Afghan Air Corps at the Kabul airport -- the deadliest episode to date of an Afghan turning against his coalition partners, officials with the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISF) in Afghanistan said.

Licensed since 1972, McLaughlin was a career US military officer. Bob Magnani, K6QXY, told the ARRL that McLaughlin was just in the US a week ago, visiting his family: "His son Adam, KD6POE, works for me. He told me that his dad had been in Afghanistan and Iraq many times over the past few years, most currently serving as a flight instructor."

McLaughlin posted on his [qrz.com](http://qrz.com) page that "almost every day, I operate at around 1230 - 1430 UTC. Sometimes I am QRV until around 1500 UTC." As of March 26, 2011, he had logged 4359 QSOs, most of them on RTTY and PSK. -- Thanks to Russ Bentson, K6KLY, CNN and Fox News for the information

Tom added:

**"I worked Jim on 20 meter RTTY on Feb. 17, 2011. He was my first Afghanistan station on RTTY."**

## ***On the Air: Find an ARRL Field Day Station Near You***

from:

*ARRL Letter*, April 28<sup>th</sup> 2011

First introduced in 2008, the ARRL's Field Day Station Locator Service :

( <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator> ) has proved a popular addition to the Field Day toolbox. This service -- an interactive map that helps amateurs or those interested in Amateur Radio find a Field Day site near them -- is free to clubs or individuals who will be operating public Field Day stations. Stations can also be listed by state or province. So far, hams in all 50 states and Puerto Rico have listed Field Day sites on the Field Day Locator. If your group would like to be a part of the Station Locator Service, it's easy to get started -- just go to the Field Day Station Locator website and follow the instructions. ARRL Field Day is the most popular on-the-air operating event in Amateur Radio. On June 25-26, join tens of thousands of Amateur Radio operators as they gather for a public demonstration of the Amateur Radio Service.

**Mich-A-Con ARC Activities for May 2011**

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

**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 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.

**Club Repeaters:**

The club maintains two repeaters, which are located on Pine Mountain (elevation 1,650 feet) in Iron Mountain, with tower and facilities provided by the Wisconsin Electric Power Co.

The range of the 2 meter repeater is about 40 miles under normal conditions, depending upon terrain. The 440 MHz repeater has a range of about 25 miles.

<b>OUTPUT</b>	<b>OFFSET</b>	<b>PLTONE</b>	<b>CALLSIGN</b>
146.850	Minus	-	WA8FXQ
444.850	Plus	100 Hz	WA8FXQ

**Repeater Specifications:**

The 146.85 repeater is a Melco Hi Pro (built from a kit in the 1970s) with 25 watts output. The repeaters share a Diamond dual band antenna at a tower height of 125 feet

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
ARRL Member? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Annual dues are due in January.  
Please make check payable to Mich-A-Con ARC  
Annual dues for Full Membership - Single \$20 \_\_ \* Family \$30 \_\_ Repeater Only \$10 \_\_\*\*

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

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

## Generator Runs on Most Any Fuel

via email from :  
Paul, KD8KUF

This article came from Handy News. [club\\_news@handymanclub.messages3.com](mailto:club_news@handymanclub.messages3.com)

DIYers often work at remote job sites and need "juice" to power corded tools. If we're not doing projects (it happens), we need power when we camp, fish, hunt or tailgate at the game. Sometimes we need electricity when a storm blows through and downs power lines.



Solution? A portable inverter generator that runs on a propane tank or other fuel sources. These powerful but quiet 2000-watt generators weigh no more than a fully stocked tool box, so they're easy to haul around.

**CMD's Triple Fuel System** is available as a kit or as a pre-installed system on such generators as the [Honda EU2000i](#) and [Yamaha EF2000iS](#). With CMD's triple-fuel system, a generator can operate right out of the box on LP gas, natural gas or gasoline; no mechanical alterations are necessary. Simply change your fuel source.

### 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:  
Scott Jarmusch KA8TFF  
[s\\_jarmusch@yahoo.com](mailto:s_jarmusch@yahoo.com)

Secretary:  
Paul Schultz KD8KUF  
(906) 774-8900  
[pauls@schultzequipment.com](mailto:pauls@schultzequipment.com)

Treasurer:  
Burt Armbrust WB8EBS  
(906) 774-8383  
[wb8ebs@yahoo.com](mailto:wb8ebs@yahoo.com)

### Reminders:

Club dues for the year 2011 were payable on January 1<sup>st</sup>. 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 May Mich-A-Con Meeting will be held on Tue May 10th 2011. It will be held in the Dickinson County Library at 7 PM**

## **MICH-A-CON RF**

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