



MICH-A-CON

Iron Mountain,
Dickinson County, Mich

May 2017

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

Which is **May 10, 2017** at **07:00 PM** at the **Dickinson Library, Iron Mountain.**

Please be there and support the cause of Amateur Radio.

From The President

In 2000 I put up my first tower and antenna system at my new QTH in Iron Mountain. I'd been off the air for about 7 years. The 72' tower supported a 5 element 20 meter monobander, a 3 element 10 meter monobander, and a 2 element 40 meter beam. I didn't put up a 15 meter antenna because the 40 meter beam could be used on that band. It worked so well on 15 that I worked North Korea on SSB in 2002.

In 2008 everything came crashing down because of a wind shear. With the insurance money, I decided to avoid stacking antennas and purchased a 4 element SteppIR. Now, I could work 6,10, 12,15,17,and 20 meters with just one antenna. Of course, that antenna had a lot of working parts. There were four motors driving a copper-berllium tape conductor to resonate the antenna on 6 bands. Optimum gain and front to back ratios were achieved by changing the tape length by using the microprocessor controller in the shack. Also, one of my favorite uses during contests, was the 180 degree direction reversal feature. In just 3 seconds, I could change the beam heading from 60 degrees to 240 degrees.

For 8 years all was well. Except for one run of bad coax last year, the beam exceeded my expectations. Today, I can only use the beam on 20 meters. My best SWR is in the SSB portion of the band. I can not lower the SWR on any of my RTTY frequencies. I can't use the antenna on any of the other 5 bands because the SWR is over 5:1.

Gary (K4FMX) and II have measured voltages to the motors and the proper voltage is being applied. There don't appear to be any shorts in the controlling lines. However, the motors don't seem to be working. The copper tape seems to be stuck on 20 meters.

It looks like I will need the boys from Vertigo Climbing to come back and check the control line box at the top of the tower and listen to see if the motors are running. If there isn't a problem in the junction box at the top of the tower, the beam will have to taken down and checked on the ground!

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I now wish that I had purchased a crank up tower in 2008. Oh, well 9 years without a problem wasn't too bad. Hopefully, it will be working for the fall DX and contest season.

See you all at Wednesday's meeting.

73,

Tom W8JWN

MICH-A-CON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES OF April 12th, 2017

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

Secretary Report

Minutes of the March 8th meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Report

Balances as of April 12, 2017
Checking -\$67.91
Savings -\$1930.87 (Repeater - \$292.45)
Cash - \$22.00

Repeater Report

Repeater users reported that it has been working fine.

Old Business

Previous problems with the Echolink unit have been resolved and it is working normally.

Tom Martin reported that the IRS has issued a tax number to the club.

A brief discussion regarding ARRL Field Day, which will take place on June 24 & 25, was held. It was determined that we will be a 3A operation with two antenna trailers available. Food and other details will be discussed at the May meeting.

New Business

Burt Armbrust reported on various emergency exercises that are scheduled in the near future. There will be a three county dam failure exercise at the Health Department, on April 19, and a U.P.-wide Homeland Security drill in early June.

Burt also reported that the Dickinson County Sheriff Department is now using “Mobile Patrol”, an app that provides access to various kinds of public safety information. Another app, called “Rave”, is coming soon.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 pm. (Skip Caswell/Scott Jarmusch)

The 50/50 drawing was won by Joe Ferris. The club treasury was enriched by \$30.00.

For the Good of the Order

Attendees reported on their recent activities.

Submitted by Joe Ferris

Attendees

Tom Martin, W8JWN
Scott Jarmusch, KA8TFF
Joe Ferris, KC9TQR
Burton Armbrust, Sr., WB8EBS
Gary Schafer, K4FMX
Skip Caswell, KE9L
Bruce LaLiberte, KD9HQD
Scott Baker, KB9AVX

Beth Baker, KC9KVP
Dave Thomas, KG9Y
Dana Bey, W8BEY
Jared Paul, ND8M
Joyce Williams, Visitor

News

New MF and LF Bands Not Available Yet

QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 13 ARLB013
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT May 5, 2017
To all radio amateurs
ARLB013 Important Notice - New MF and LF Bands are
Not Yet Available to Use!

The new 630-meter and 2200-meter bands are not yet available for Amateur Radio use. The effective date of the recent FCC Report and Order (R&O) granting these allocations has not yet been determined, and until the start date has been set, it is not legal under an Amateur Radio license to transmit on either band.

The R&O can be found on the web in PDF format at, https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-17-33A1.pdf.

The fact that the new rules contain a new information-collection requirement - notification of operation to the United Telecoms Council (UTC) - complicates the matter of determining an effective date. According to the FCC R&O, the Office of Management and Budget (under the Paperwork Reduction Act) must first approve the information-collection requirements in Part 97.303(g)(2),

which must be in place before radio amateurs can use the new bands.

Once that happens, the FCC will publish a notice in The Federal Register "announcing such approval and the relevant effective date."

ARRL will announce the UTC notification procedures and the effective date to use these new bands as soon as these are known.

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ARLX004 Armed Forces Day Crossband Military**Amature Radio Communications Test is May 13**

The US Army, Air Force, Navy, and Coast Guard will sponsor the traditional military/amateur radio communication tests on Saturday, May 13 to mark the 66th annual Armed Forces Day (AFD). Armed Forces Day is May 20, but the AFD Crossband Military-Amateur Radio event will take place a week earlier in order to avoid schedule conflicts with those attending Hamvention.

Complete information, including military stations, modes, and frequencies, is available on the US Army MARS website at, <http://www.usarmymars.org/home/announcements>.

The annual celebration is a unique opportunity to test two-way communication between radio amateurs and military stations (authorized under Part 97.111 of the Amateur Service rules). It features traditional military-to-amateur crossband SSB voice, CW, practice using legacy interoperability waveforms, and the opportunity for participating hams to utilize more modern military modes, such as MIL-STD Serial PSK and Automatic Link Establishment (ALE). Military stations and Amateur Radio stations are authorized to communicate directly on certain 60-meter interoperability channels - 5,330.5, 5346.5, and 5,371.5 kHz.

These tests give Amateur Radio operators and shortwave listeners a chance and a challenge to demonstrate individual technical skills and to receive recognition from the appropriate military radio station. QSL cards will be available for stations successfully contacting participating military stations.

The Armed Forces Day message will be transmitted via Military Standard radioteletype modes (MIL-STD 188-110A/B). Software is available to demodulate the military serial PSK waveform, and detailed instructions can be downloaded from, http://www.n2ckh.com/MARS_ALE_FORUM/MSDMT.html

. Utilizing this mode with soundcard equipment can be challenging; review the instructions carefully.

A short practice transmission will be sent at 1930 and 2330 on May 6, 7, 10, and 12 on 13.506.5 MHz USB and 17.443.0 MHz USB.

Military FSK is Baudot at 850 Hz, 75 baud, low mark, and 2000 Hz center. Most RTTY programs can be set to decode this mode. To achieve low mark while receiving in USB, select reverse shift.

QSL cards are available for individuals that receive the Armed Forces Day test message. To receive a card, copy the printed text of the test message as received from the military station, and include it in your report. No attempt should be made to correct possible errors.

Stations copying Armed Forces Day messages transmitted from US Army and US Navy stations and requesting a QSL card, can complete the QSL report form online at, <http://www.usarmymars.org/>. Stations copying the Armed Forces Day message transmitted from US Air Force stations and seeking a QSL card should send a request to Armed Forces Day Celebration, Chief, Air Force MARS, 203 W. Losey St, Scott AFB, IL 62225.

Include a transcript of the received text, time observed, frequency observed, military station call sign, your full name and Amateur Radio call sign (if applicable), full mailing address (including ZIP code).

Stations with Automatic Link Establishment (ALE) capability can contact a military station on specific half duplex crossband channels established for this purpose. ALE is a selective calling and linking method utilized by government, military, and amateur radio communications. Military stations will scan and receive certain amateur HFLINK ALE frequencies and transmit on the corresponding military ALE frequency. Military stations will also transmit ALE station identification (soundings) on each military frequency at 30- to 90-minute intervals. Amateur stations may scan military frequencies and monitor the soundings to build the LQA database or select the channel manually. Amateur stations will call military stations using ALE selective calling on one of the paired cross band channels.

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MESSAGE FROM DX ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Greetings,

Stan Arnett AC8W is the Great Lakes Division Representative to the ARRL DX Advisory Committee (DXAC). Stan is asking for comments and suggestions from DXers and interested parties in the Great Lakes Division, as the DXAC considers an important question.

From Stan:

The DX Advisory Committee has been tasked with examining the DXCC ethics rule, specifically with regard to use of remotely operated stations. I am seeking input from DXers from the Great Lakes Division.

I have been told that "there is well known use of US and other remotes by foreign operators who were not properly identifying and were claiming contacts made via US-based remote stations for credit on contacts that were impossible given propagation issues particularly on 6, 2, and 160 meters. There was repeated mention of a perceived problem with "propagation shopping" by the use of remote stations such that again, contacts were being claimed on bands and conditions which were virtually impossible given propagation limitations at the time. There were concerns that there are stateside stations who work contests while using their own station while simultaneously controlling a remote station, and "breaking the pileup" on 160 meters for example using the remote station located (let's say, in the Northeast) while the actual station working the contest is working from a location in the Midwest and using the remote station to break through the pile-up and then the actual Midwest location to complete the contact and make the report, and other similar concerns."

Our specific tasking is:

"Please consider potential ethical issues with regard to legal, remote-controlled operations, and how these operations comport with DXCC rules. Then, please consider DXCC Rule 11"

11. Issues concerning remotely controlled operating and DXCC are best dealt with by each individual carefully considering the ethical limits that he/she will accept for his/her DXCC and other operating awards. As the premier operating award in Amateur Radio, DXCC draws intense scrutiny from its participants. As DX chasers climb up the Standings there will be increased attention given to these achievements and the owner of these achievements needs to be comfortable standing behind his/her award and numbers. Peer attention has always been a part of awards chasing, of course, but in these times with so many awards and so many players, it is more important than ever to "play the game" ethically.

"Technological advances, while welcome, also add to the difficulty in defining rules for DXCC, but the intent of the rules is what is important. It is never OK to remotely use a station outside of the "home DXCC entity" to add to the home-entity DXCC totals – just as it is never OK for you to ask someone else at another station in another place to make QSOs for you. Remotely controlled stations must be properly licensed if they are to count for DXCC. It will continue to be up to the operator to decide what types of legal remote control operating he/she will use (if any) to contribute to an operating award."

If you have suggestions or comments relative to the ethics issue and the use of remote control I would appreciate your input. Please provide any recommendations for changes to the rule, which would improve the rule and the way participants use remotely controlled stations. Please restrict comments to ethical issues only.

If you feel no change is needed that is a valid response.

Deadline for comments to me is Monday, May 15. I will compile synthesize responses for the DXAC.

Stan Arnett II, AC8W
Great Lakes Representative DXAC
ac8w@comcast.net

ARLB032 W1AW 2016/2017 Winter Operating Schedule

ARRL Bulletin 1 ARLB001
 From ARRL Headquarters
 Newington CT January 3, 2017
 To all radio amateurs

Morning Schedule:

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

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

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

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100 UTC (4 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2100 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
2200 " (5 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
2300 " (6 PM EST)	DIGITAL	Daily
0000 " (7 PM EST)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
0000 " "	CWf	Tue, Thu
0100 " (8 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
0200 " (9 PM EST)	DIGITAL	Daily
0245 " (9:45 PM EST)	VOICE	Daily
0300 " (10 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0300 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
0400 " (11 PM EST)	CWb	Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

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

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.

The voice mode used for W1AW's 40 meters voice bulletins is now full-carrier, double sideband AM.
 Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.
 On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2330 UTC (6:30 PM EST), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular digital frequencies.

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

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

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

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

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

The W1AW Operating Schedule may also be found on page 96 in the January 2017 issue of QST or on the web at <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule>.

ARRL MICHIGAN SECTION NEWS

Greetings to the Hams of Michigan April,

April is a busy month for sure. The Michigan QSO party is running as this is being written and we have two Special event stations that will soon be in operation to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Michigan State Police. Details are listed in the Special Event Stations listing in QST. The Michigan State Parks on the Air had a successful start on April with a number of chilly, and in some cases, wet activations across various 2017 parks and trails. Now that the weather has improved, even more activations will be taking place.

MSPOTA

As mentioned above, the Michigan State Parks on the Air (MSPOTA) event is off and running. There are several details that are being fine-tuned as we go, but the plan from the outset has been to assemble an agile event that responds to difficulties and opportunities with adjusted focus and to add capabilities as we go. Our small, dedicated team is doing a great job reacting to input from the field.

Our operators in Michigan (Activators and Chasers) do have one burden to bear in that hearing each other can be very difficult because of propagation conditions. I know from personal experience that trying to hear our activators and being heard by them can sometimes be nearly impossible. Hopefully going forward conditions will improve and give us "local folks" a chance to make some MSPOTA contacts as well.

Watch our web site at www.mspota.org and our Facebook page at Michigan State Parks on the Air for current information and breaking news.

Distracted Driving Bill (HB4466)

HB 4466, a bill often referred to as a "Distracted Driving Bill" has been referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in the Michigan House of representatives. This is the bill that your Section and Division

leadership worked with bill sponsors to ensure that bill language specifically excludes amateur radio operation from a vehicle from being considered as distracted driving. At this time, here is nothing more to report.

Great Lakes HamCon@MIS

The largest planned ham gathering in Michigan is still in the planning process but is gathering significant steam as we move closer to the actual event. The Great Lakes HamCon will take place at Michigan International Speedway located in the beautiful Irish Hills of Southeast Michigan on October 7 & 8, 2017.

We do have some breaking news in that our event has been designated as the Great Lakes ARRL Division Convention and that the ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR will be attending our event to represent the ARRL.

We now have 16 amateur radio clubs who are founding members of the Great Lakes Amateur Radio Association, the parent organization of Great Lakes HamCon. Those clubs are (in no particular order): Oakland County ARS, MI QRP Club, Branch County ARC, Central MI ARC, Arrow Communication Assn, Southern MI ARS, Cascades ARS, Livingston ARK, Hillsdale County ARC, South Lyon AARC, General Motors ARC, Livonia ARC, Monroe County Radio Communications Assn, Adrian ARC, Motor City Radio Club, and Utica-Shelby Emergency Communications Assn.

We are grateful to these clubs for seeing the vision and for stepping forward to provide the support and funding that is necessary to make this event a reality.

Dayton (Xenia, that is) is fast approaching and the GLHamCon will have a booth in Building 6 (#6612) and we are looking for some folks who would be willing to help us spread the word to the rest of the amateur world. If you can spare a couple of hours, we would be happy to have you join us. You can offer your services for Dayton and for other activities at volun-

teer@glhamcon.org.

Located on our website at <http://glhamcon.org/> is our latest flyer.

Each Club is encouraged to print copies for their members and to place the flyer on your club's website to get the word out to as many Michigan hams as possible.

While you are on the website, look around a bit and if you are interested in having a vinyl window sticker for the back window of your ride, you can see how to get one delivered to your door at no charge.

Hospitality Acknowledgements

Many thanks go to the following groups for the fine hospitality shown during travels around the Section:

The Crossroads Hamfest in Kalamazoo, who welcomed WA8EFK and myself to their event.

The Southfield Police Department, who welcomed WA8EFK and myself to the Distracted Driving Bill (HB4466) press conference.

Michigan Section Events and Staff Travel Plans

- Apr 22, 2017 Chassell Hamfest, Chassell, MI
- May 6, 2017 Cadillac Hamfest, Cadillac, MI – W8CT
- Jun 3, 2017 IRA Hamfest, Hudsonville, MI – WB8R
- Jun 4, 2017 Chelsea Hamfest, Chelsea, MI – WB8R
- Jun 10, 2017 LARS Hamfest, Newberry, MI – WB8R**
- Jun 18, 2017 Monroe Hamfest, Monroe, MI – WB8R
- July 7-8, 2017 MI Section Outing/ MIARPSC EC Meeting, Hale, MI
- July 22, 2017 GMARC Summer Trunk Swap
- July 22, 2017 Harrison Hamfest, Harrison, MI – W8CT
- July 29, 2017 CMARC Outdoor Swap – WB8R
- Aug 5, 2017 UP Hamfest, Escanaba, MI – WB8R**
- Aug 13, 2017 Port Huron Seaway Swap
- Aug 19, 2017 Alpena SWAP 2017, Alpena, MI
- Aug 19, 2017 Spark in the Park, Wyoming, MI – WB8R, et al
- Sep 9, 2017 GraHamfest, Wyoming, MI – WB8R
- Sep 17, 2017 Adrian Hamfest, Adrian, MI – WB8R
- Sep 23, 2017 GMARC Fall Trunk Swap

Oct 7-8, 2017 Great Lakes HamCon, Brooklyn, MI – WB8R et al

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 2100
- 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

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

Michigan ARPSC Activities March 2017

SAR March 2017: K8ED 261, WB8WKQ 259, N5MKY 142, K8RDN 92, WB8TQZ 86, WD8USA 63, K8BKM 45, WD8MWD 32, W8MSK 27, WB8RCR 12, N8OSL 10, KE8BYC 10, WB8R 2, KD8LSM 1.

Total SAR reported: 1042

Brass Pounder's League (BPL): None

PSHR March 2017: WB8RCR 257, WB8R 197, WD8MWD 127, WD8USA 120, K8RDN 120, WB8WKQ 110, WB8TQZ 110, N8OSL 90, K8ED 90, KC8YVF 85, N5MKY 80, KC8NFN 51, KD8LSM 41, KE8BYC 26.

Net traffic March 2017:

Michigan Amateur Communications System 124, Michigan Traffic Net 102, The Michigan Net 84, Upper Peninsula Net 45, Great Lakes Emergency and Traffic Net 42, Southeastern Michigan Traffic Net 30, Michigan VHF Traffic Net 20, Michigan Digital Traffic Net 12, Northern Lower Eastern Upper Peninsula Net 7, Genesee County ARPSC Traffic and Training Net 4, Saginaw County ARES Net 3, District 3 ARPSC Net 3, Bay Area Regional Traffic System 1, Michigan Amateur Radio Public Service Corps 1, District 8 Digital Emergency Net , District 8 Emergency Net , Luce County ARES Net , Red Cross Net of Greater Grand Rapids , District 5 Hospital Net , Branch County Emergency Net , Chelsea ARC Net.

Total net traffic reported: 478

Volunteer Hours Dollar Value:

ARPSC: \$181,197

NTS: \$43,230

Total Dollar Value December 2016: \$224,427

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 Homeland Security Division.

73 until next month,

Larry, WB8R



Dales Tales

Greetings everyone, welcome to "Dale's Tales" for May 2017.

Upcoming: Of course, it is **the Dayton Hamvention®**. Certainly, this year's event will be a new adventure, much as it was when the Hamvention moved from downtown Dayton to Wampler's Ballarena many years ago. We all grew with the expansion into the entire HARA Arena and hardly noticed those changes. Now, there is a major venue change and associated with that, a new learning experience for everyone. I certainly want to encourage everyone - attendees, flea marketers, vendors, sponsors and casual observers to be patient and understanding, as the learning curve is steep for all.

The Greene County Fairgrounds offers a great venue for THE major event in ham radio. All the old familiar vendor locations are gone and replaced by new booths and displays. We will search them all out and quite likely find new friends and vendors in the process. I am truly looking forward to this new location and all it has to offer. As your Director and representing the hosting ARRL Great Lakes Division, I'll be spending most of my time at the ARRL EXPO's "Meet and Greet" area; I do hope to see you there. Be sure to check out the Hamvention web pages for the latest information: <http://hamvention.org/>

Scott N8SY, Ohio SM will also host the Ohio Section Hospitality Booth at the ARRL EXPO. Scott always welcomes visitors from all across the country, so be sure to stop by.

Spring is here and along with it the potential severe weather that appears all across the Great Lakes Division. Many, if not most ARES groups have completed their Skywarn training for this year and are prepared for activation if the situation calls for it. And, IF their key Served Agency calls them into action. "IF" is the intended key word. Self-deployment is not the desired action. It is fraught with problems - going to the wrong place, not being really needed, being ill prepared for the scenario, not registered with the served agency, needed elsewhere, the list goes on. Moreover, every season, it seems, we hear of someone who chose to self-deploy into a disaster area only to create a mini-disaster all by themselves. The self-deployment rule espoused by all leaders in Emergency management is simply "Don't do it"! Instead, contact

your E.C. and let him or her know of your availability and ask if you are needed, where you may best serve, when you should arrive and what resources you need to take with you. We need to be the best communicators - let's make sure we are on that path.

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

For those of us who have been hams for a while, we know how important clubs are. And this month, I got to see that once again, having been invited to the 40th anniversary celebration of the Highland Amateur Radio Association. What a nice celebration with some very friendly folks! They're a very active club with many activities, especially in recruiting and teaching new hams.

And over the past several years, I've been to a number of club celebrations, including several 75th anniversaries. Good to see so many clubs going strong.

It doesn't seem like amateur radio is a group activity. I can just turn on my radio and talk around the world. Or that is one view. But when you stop to think about it, if I just call a random number in some other country on my phone, I most likely won't get a friendly response. On ham radio, at the very least, I'll get some interest in how my signal is doing, maybe a weather report, and a friendly "73!" And that can only be because of our shared interest in radio.

Taken to another level, there are so many of our activities that are "group" exercises. You can't do a public service event without a shared interest in the event or cause, and without a good deal of coordination between the ham organizers and the event organizers. And remember, the spring/summer holds lots of opportunities for these kind of events.

The ARDF Championships, which happen to be coming to Cincinnati--my home town!--on August 6th, are another of those "group" events. Yes, the individual participants "compete" against each other, but unless there was a sponsoring group, and people who are willing to do the set-up, how would it happen? Hard to think of a reason

to learn about and do radio direction finding without some help.

And one of the odd facts I've learned from being on the Entry Level License Committee of the Board, is that a large number of new hams get their license totally on their own. And we also know that a large number of technician licensees never advance, and drop out, although we sometimes have to wait through the ten-year license period to see that renewals are down. Anyway, we can't necessarily do anything about people who want to "do it on their own," but the enthusiasm of the clubs that do hold license classes helps make and retain new hams, who are more likely to be on the air, and advance to a higher license. So keep up the good work on that front. And the more activities your club has, with a variety of interests served, the better the club will be, and the better ham radio will be.

All of us can learn, and all of us can participate. Share your knowledge. Keep your club strong, and do what you can to help ham radio.

73, Tom W8WTD Vice Director, Great Lakes Division

Here is the current Great Lakes Division ARRL Sanctioned [Hamfest Schedule](#) covering the next few weeks. 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.

May 6 - Cadillac Hamfest - Cadillac, MI

May 13 - Ashland Hamfest - Ashland, KY

May 19, 20 & 21 - Dayton Hamvention - Xenia, OH

Jun 3 - IRA Hamfest - Hudsonville, MI

Jun 3 - Fulton County - Tedrow, OH

Jun 3 - Princeton Hamfest - Princeton, KY

Jun 4 - Chelsea Hamfest - Chelsea, MI

Jun 10 - Luce County - Newberry, MI

Jun 10 - Union County - Marysville, OH

Jun 17 - Milford Hamfest - Milford, OH

Jun 18 - Monroe Hamfest - Monroe, MI

Jun 24 & 25 - FIELD DAY

Jul 8 - GARS Hamfest - Germantown, OH

Jul 9 - 20/9 Tailgate - Austintown, OH

Jul 16 - Van Wert Hamfest - Van Wert, OH

Jul 22 - Harrison Hamfest - Harrison, MI

Jul 22 - GMARC Tailgate - Shelby Twp, MI

Jul 22 - Big Sandy Hamfest - Louisa, KY

Jul 29 - CMARC Outdoor Hamfest - Lansing, MI

Jul 30 - Portage Hamfest - Ravenna, OH

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

73, Let's be radio-active!

Dale Williams WA8EFK

Director

Great Lakes Division

ARRL PROPAGATION BULLETIN

ZCZC AP18
 QST de W1AW
 Propagation Forecast Bulletin 18 ARLP018 From Tad
 Cook, K7RA Seattle, WA May 5, 2017
 To all radio amateurs

Each of the weekly solar and geomagnetic indicators that we track were lower this week. Average daily sunspot number dropped 10.6 points to 25.1, and average daily solar flux was 4.5 points lower than the previous week at 76.9.

It is comforting to see though that we have not witnessed a day with 0 sunspots since April 17. Average planetary and mid-latitude A index were both 5.6, down from the previous week which had planetary A index at 26.4 and mid-latitude at 18.4.

The A index is expected to remain quiet until May 17-20.

As of Thursday night, May 4, the predicted solar flux is 76 on May 5-8, 74 on May 9-12, 75 on May 13-14, 80 on May 15-18, 85 on May 19-21, 80 on May 22-23, 77 on May 24-27, 75 on May 28-30, 73 on May 31 through June 8, 75 on June 9-10, 80 on June 11-14, 85 on June 15-16, and 88 on June 17.

Predicted planetary A index is 5 and 8 on May 5-6, 5 on May 7-9, then 8, 5, 8, 8, 5, and 8 on May 10-15, then 15, 30 and 25 on May 16-18, then 45, 50, 15, 10 and 8 on May 19-23, then 5 on May 24-27, then 12 and 8 on May 28-29, 5 on May 30 through June 1, 8 on June 2-4, and 5 on June 5-10, then 8, 15, 30, 25, 45 and 50 on June 11-16.

Also related to planetary A index is the OK1HH bulletin from the Czech Propagation Interest Group:

"Geomagnetic field will be:
 Quiet on May 10, 14-15,
 Mostly quiet on May 9, 13, 16, 25-30
 Quiet to unsettled May 5-6, 22-24, 31
 Quiet to active on May 7-8, 11-12, 19-21 Active to disturbed on May 17-18

"Amplifications of the solar wind from coronal holes are expected on May (5-9,) 16-19, (20).

"Remark: - Parenthesis means lower probability of activity enhancement and/or lower reliability of prediction."

Remember, you can get a new and revised 45-day forecast for solar flux and planetary A index daily, usually after 2100 UTC from NOAA at, <ftp://ftp.swpc.noaa.gov/pub/forecasts/45DF/>.

Dr. Tamitha Skov released a new space weather video commentary yesterday: <http://bit.ly/2pdyRv7>.

Bob Kile, W7RH of Las Vegas, Nevada noticed a nice sporadic-E 6 meter opening on May 3:

"Spring is here and so was the first sporadic-E propagation on 6m for the season. There were openings on 6m from the SW to mid-west on May 2nd and 3rd. I happened to be listening on May 3rd when the band opened up at about 00:00 to the mid-west. Beacons were copied in Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas. I could not hear the guys in California but a few in southern Arizona could be heard at times.

"Stations worked were in West Texas, Wyoming, Idaho and Colorado. Of special note two stations in Cheyenne, WY WY7HR and WY7KY were solid copy for several hours when the band finally closed about 0200 UTC."

Bob at his home QTH is using a 3 element Yagi on 6 meters mounted low on his patio. But I think more interesting is his HF remote base station literally in the middle of nowhere in the Northern Arizona desert, a good distance northeast of Seligman, and approximately 240 miles from Bob's home in Las Vegas.

You can check his QRZ.com listing or <http://w7rh.net/> for a deeper rundown.

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

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

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

Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at

<http://arrl.org/propagation>.

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

Sunspot numbers for April 27 through May 3, 2017 were 23, 35, 34, 33, 11, 25, and 15, with a mean of 25.1. 10.7 cm flux was 78.2, 78, 77, 77.4, 75.3, 77.2, and 74.9, with a mean of 76.9. Estimated planetary A indices were 7, 6, 6, 6, 5, 5, and 4, with a mean of 5.6. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 10, 6, 6, 6, 5, 4, and 2, with a mean of 5.6.
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ARRL DX NEWS

QST de W1AW
DX Bulletin 18 ARLD018
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT May 4, 2017
To all radio amateurs

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

LAOS, XW. Champ will be QRV as XW1IC on May 8, 9 and 10 with an emphasis on RTTY on 20, 17 and 15 meters. QSL via OQRS on Club Log, or paper QSL, via E21EIC. You can also confirm using LoTW.

CAPE VERDE, D4. Harald, DF2WO (XT2AW, 9X2AW) is QRV until June 8 as D44TWO. He is operating on 80 to 6 meters with a hex beam and vertical antennas. QSL via M0OXO.

NORTHERN IRELAND, GI. Special event call GB0GLS (Gilnahirk Listening Station) draws attention to this radio station's role in WWII. They will be QRV from May 5 to 13. QSL via M10WWB (d/B).

MALDIVES, 8Q. Jim, G3VDB is QRV as 8Q7EJ until May 7. Activity is on 30, 20 and 17 meters using mostly CW with some SSB, PSK and RTTY.

QSL via OQRS.

WEST MALAYSIA, 9M2. Luca, IK2PFL will be QRV as 9M2/IK2PFL from Perhentian Besar, IOTA AS-073, until May 8. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands. QSL to home call.

QATAR, A7. Martin, MW0BRO will be QRV as A7/MW0BRO until May 18 on 80 to 10 meters using CW only. QSL via MW0BRO (d), eQSL.

RUSSIA, UA. More than 150 different stations will be active with the prefix RP72 between May 5 and 9 to commemorate the end of WWII. See <http://pobeda.srr.ru/> for a list of the calls.

UKRAINE, UR. EM2017UEV will operate around the Eurovision Song Contest 2017 from May 9 to 13. For qsl information see qrz.com.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, VP5. Art, KZ5D plans to be QRV as VP5/KZ5D from May 25 to 31, including the CQ WPX CW Contest with special call VQ9D. QSL via LoTW.

BOTSWANA, A2. A group of operators are QRV as A25UK until May 6. Activity is on the low bands with an emphasis on RTTY. QSL via M0OXO.



SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, E5. Doug, W6HB and Bruce, AD7MM will be QRV as E51DLD and E51BAS, respectively, from Rarotonga Island, IOTA OC-013, until May 12. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using SSB. QSL direct to home calls.

MARQUESAS ISLAND, FO. Max, IZZZTQ is QRV as FO/IZZZTQ from Fatu Hiva, IOTA OC-027. Activity is on 40 to 15 meters using SSB, RTTY, PSK and JT65 with solar panels and a wind generator. He will be active from other islands as well. QSL direct to home call.

VIET NAM, 3W. Peter, DF7DQ will be QRV as 3W9DQ until May 10. Activity will be holiday style on 40 to 10 meters using mostly CW with some digital modes. QSL to home call. In addition, Yuri, RM0F will be QRV as 3W9FU from Nha Trang while on vacation until May 10. Activity will be holiday style on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and various digital modes. He also plans to be active as 3W9FU/p from IOTA AS-157 for two or three days. QSL to home call.

JAPAN, JA. Special event stations 8J4VLP, 8J6VLP, 8J8VLP and 8J9VLP are QRV until June 30 to commemorate World QRP Day on June 17. All stations will be active on the HF bands using 5 watts. QSL all calls via bureau.

FERNANDO DE NORONHA, PY0F. Jan, PY4NY will be QRV as PY0NY from May 5 to 15 to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the Smoke Squadron, the Brazilian Air Force's Official Squadron. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB, RTTY and various digital modes. QSL to home call.

SEYCHELLES, S7. Ivan, LZ1PJ will be QRV as S79J from Mahe, IOTA AF-024, until May 10. Activity will be on the HF bands and 6 meters using only CW. He welcomes calls from SKCC members. QSL to home call.

POLAND, SP. Special event station SN74GETTO is QRV until May 16 to commemorate the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. QSL direct to SP5PDB.

LORD HOWE ISLAND, VK9L. Christoph, DL1YAF plans to be QRV as DL1YAF/VK9L until May 8. Activity is holiday style on 80 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

CAYMAN ISLANDS, ZF. Al, KZ3AB and Tony, W1FHN will be QRV as ZF2AB until May 6. Activity will be holiday style on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using SSB. QSL via WA3EOP.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The 10-10 International Spring Contest, CW, SBMS 2.3 GHz and Up Contest, Microwave Spring Sprint, ARI International DX Contest, F9AA Cup, PSK, 7th Call Area QSO Party, Indiana QSO Party, FISTS Spring Slow Speed Sprint, Delaware QSO Party and the New England QSO Party are all on tap for this weekend.

Please May QST, page 87 and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest web sites for details.

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CLASSIFIED

I have the following gear up for sale.

Kenwood TM-V71a, 2m/440 mobile - \$250

Yaesu VX-7R, 6m/2m/220/440 Submersible HT - \$200 including Heil headset.

Larsen NMO-2/70 mobile antenna -\$40

Jared

K8ABS ESTATE SALE

**SB104 \$310.00 SB604 plus AC power
Supply \$225.00 SB230 \$500.00+**

**MFJ Versa Tuner II-969 300 Watt
Asking \$185.00**

**Home Brew?? Collins Speaker Cabinet w/
Ant Switch & SWR Meter built in.**

**Above is Jim's operating station W/ Manu-
als MINT Asking \$950.00**



Icom 706 & AH-4 Auto Tuner Asking \$870.00

**Tenna Pyramid Phase III 13.8V / 10A Power Supply
Asking \$50.00**

Kenwood TM231A

Kenwood TW241A

Kenwood AT250 Tuner 100Watt

**Also have handhelds, will be procuring chargers
etc.**

**Contact Burt WB8EBS 1-906-774-8383 Have call-
er ID & Voice Mail.**



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
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 6pm EST

Dickenson County ARES
146.85
Sunday 6pm CST

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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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	efry@centurylink.net
KG8NK	GEMBOLIS	LOUIS	ISHPEMING	906-485-5442	lgembolis@chartermi.net
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
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	MORIRITY	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
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



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.