

MICH-A-CON RF

IRON MOUNTAIN, MI

JULY 2007

FIELD DAY 2007 A HUGE SUCCESS!

The Mich-A-Con Radio Club's participation in Field Day was a huge success again this year. Tom, W8JWN, President of the Club noted that it was great fun for all. Club members were on hand for the many duties involved in making this event successful. A special thanks goes out to Mike Bray, K8DDB for all of his work with the logging software and FD summary submitted to the ARRL.

Terry, KB9ZER provided his camper again this year. The camper doubles as a home base for the members and support for the tower. The large tower remains a challenge to take down every year. Check out the meeting notes and Field Day report which includes many suggestions for making next years event even better.

This was also the first year the annual Picnic was held on the same day as Field Day. The club members all agreed this was a great idea and a perfect time to hold the picnic. Mike, N9NBN took many pictures again this year and since, as the saying goes a picture is worth a thousand words, I will be including many of the fantastic shots in this months newsletter with more to come in the following issues.

A big thanks also goes out to the set up and tear down crews. Field Day does not just happen and whether it is Lee, N8LT "shooting" the antennas up in the trees or Scott, KA8TFF brining his antenna, an event like this takes a dedicated team, our team! Guys like Dennis, K8SWX and Bob, KC8TWG are always on hand to help out too! Thanks to all of the great Mich-A-Con Team for promoting Amateur Radio!

The Field Day Reports on the following page were prepared by Mike, K8DDB:

Field Day 2007 Feedback

Interference

Filters and stubs must be used to eliminate interference.

Purchase an I.C.E. 6 band filter.

Make more stubs and USE them.

Monoband antennas instead of G5RV.

Tower

Pursue a system before using the tower for FD 2008.

New lighter tower

Think of ARES situation: no tribander

Beam

The TH3 has become a TH2 because of damage.

New beam

Use TH2

Quad antenna

Wire Antennas

Lee has one assistant

Two others to string antenna after Lee moves to the next shot

Picnic

Same time next year

Person in charge of picnic

Keep cooler by picnic area

Have antennas and stations setup before picnic

Operator Food

Readily accessible and a knowledge of what's available.

More water

Operations

Memory stick for Mike to download logs at conclusion of FD

Networking of all computers

Signs over stations: RTTY, SOLAR, SSTV, PACKET, for visitors to see.

GOTA schedule of ops and bands if possible

Organization

FD chairman to oversee all facets

Schedule for jobs

More people to setup and tear down

Sunday Lunch

Mich-A-Con ARC Field Day 2007

Field Day Call Used: KC8VC

GOTA Station Call: N8LT

Number of Participants: 15

Number of Visitors (that signed the log): 16

Number of transmitters in simultaneous operation: 3 (not including the GOTA station)

Entry Class: 3 A (Club or non-club portable)

Power Sources Used:

Generator

Battery

Solar Power for bonus points

ARRL / RAC Section: MI

Total CW QSO's: 238 X 2 = Total CW QSO points: 476

Total Digital QSO's: 32 X 2 = Total Digital QSO points: 64

Total Phone QSO's: 525 X 1 = Total Phone QSO points: 525

Total QSO points: 1065

Power Multiplier: 2 (150 Watts or less)

Claimed Score: 2130

Bonus Points Claimed:

100% Emergency power 300

Media Publicity 100

Set-up in Public Place 100

Information Booth 100

W1AW Field Day Message 0

Formal NTS messages handled (13)
100

Natural Power QSO's Completed 100

Site Visited by invited officials 100

Site Visited by served agency 0

GOTA maximum QSO's achieved (3x20) 60

QSO completed by operator under 18 (2x20)
40

Submitted by ARRL web applet 50

Total Bonus Points Claimed: 1050

Total Score (if all bonus points are accepted by ARRL): 3180

FIELD DAY STATS CONTINUED:

CW Band	Digital QSOs	Phone QSOs	QSOs	Totals
160	0	0	0	0
80	40	0	73	113
40	120	0	191	311
20	69	32	145	246
15	9	0	15	24
10	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0
1.25	0	0	0	0
70	0	0	0	0
33	0	0	0	0
23	0	0	0	0
GOTA	0	0	101*	101
Totals	238	32	525	795

*GOTA QSOs by Band:

Band	QSOs
80	26
40	46
20	29

We worked all 50 states, 6 Canadian provinces, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Russia and Guadeloupe.

Last Year vs This Year:

	2006	2007
GOTA Points (Including bonus points)	167	201
CW Points	466	476
Phone Points (Not including GOTA)	273	424
Digital Points	74	64
Total score including bonus points	2960	3180

New This Year:

Operated class 3A instead of 2A

GOTA bonus point restructuring gave us more bonus points

Participation of youth under 18 gave us 40 bonus points

No site visit by served agency (- 100 points)

Unable to copy ARRL Bulletin due to poor band conditions and QRM (- 100 points)

Computer logging at all stations

Used Outpost and a printer to handle packet traffic messages vs doing it by hand.

Installed wire antennas on Friday afternoon

Combined club picnic with Field Day on Saturday

New Honda generator, extension cords, line conditioner/voltage monitor & surge protector



Ready for Field Day 2007



Mike, K8DDB makes Contacts!



Terry, KB9ZER and Mike, K8DDB



Tom W8JWN and Bob KC8TWG



A Great Day for Field Day 2007 !



The Club's New Generator in Action!

PICTURES BY: MIKE, N9NBN

Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the July 10, 2007 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Martin, W8JWN, at 7:01 PM.

Secretary Report

The minutes of the June 12th meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Report

No report. Treasurer absent.

Repeater Report

Lee, N8LT, has temporarily installed the new 2 meter GE repeater and has set the power at 50 watts to the feedline. There is still some noise on the repeater when it's windy, which is probably caused by deteriorating grounding braids. We should schedule tower work soon to ground the antenna support and feedline at the 80 foot level.

ARES

No report.

Old Business

Field Day - Tom, W8JWN, presented feedback from Field Day - See attached list.

The generator and related power equipment is stored in a locked room at the Sheriff's Dept Garage.

We need to provide preventive maintenance on the generator (change oil, add Stabil, etc.).

Special Event - QST requires a few months advanced notice to include information on upcoming Special Events, so we need to decide what we are going to do this fall by our next meeting. Contact Mike, N9NBN.

Trailer Fund - We need volunteer(s) to man a club table at the UP Hamfest in Escanaba on July 28th to sell club equipment that is in excess to our needs. Tom, W8JWN, and Gary, K4FMX, will remove donated equipment from Jack Fortier's place this weekend.

New Business

Randy, KB9ZES, asked what has been done with the money collected from the sale of T-Shirts that he donated to the club.

Mike, K8DDB, has sent letters of thanks to all Field Day 2007 contributors.

Mike, K8DDB, presented a Field Day 2007 Summary - See attached list.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

For The Good Of The Order - Attendees discussed their recent amateur radio related activities.

Submitted by Mike Bray

Attendees

Mike Bray, K8DDB ---Secretary
Scott Jarmusch, KA8TFF
Art Costa, KD8GLO
Mike Boileau, N9NBN --- Vice President
Tom Martin, W8JWN ---President
Bob Uren, KC8TWG
Burton Armbrust, WB8EBS
Nate Mieras, KD8GLP
Scott Baker, KB9AVX
Beth Baker, KC9KVP
Steve Johnson, KC8RYY
Cliff Haycock, KD4ZBP --- Visitor
Steve Skauge, KD8CCP
Jim Rye, W8IFI --- Visitor
Lee Michaud, N8LT
Gary Schafer, K4FMX --- Visitor
Randy Zandt, KB9ZES

Words from the President

TOM, W8JWN

I have been reminded that radio is a hobby and not a job. Many times we hams get caught up in our radio related activities to the detriment of our families, relationships, and jobs. We spent too much time in the shack looking for a new country, or just rag chewing with a guy on 2 meters that you talk to five times a week. We're hidden in the basement or garage workshop repairing, building, or planning new projects, while that dripping faucet upstairs is neglected. We pour over volumes of QST and CQ Magazine and don't take the time to talk to the kids or spouse. We volunteer for every club activity but many times fail to take the family on a trip to the lake. Our daily life becomes centered on a hobby.

I have probably been the greatest sinner these past several years: DX-peditions to Belize and Jersey Island, DX contests during the fall and winter (operated from W0AIH), Field Day in the summer, club meetings, and articles for the newsletter at least once a month. Also, I collected, priced, advertised, sold, packaged, and shipped two SK's stations. Now, I'm starting to gather information on the gear that Jack Fortier donated to the club. My garage, once clean and orderly, is now filled with more antiquated radio stuff.

My mind is racing around generators, trailers, towers rising and falling, beams breaking, Cornish Pumps and Bat Caves. I need a break from all of this!

Canada beckons! Seven lovely days of fishing, relaxing, joking, and eating golden walleye await this crazed ham. No phones, no radio, no TV, no QRM. And, after the cards are put away and the lights extinguished, the only sound will be the lonely call of the loon across the still evening waters.

Submitted by:
William M. Niemuth, KB9ENO
President, WECOMM, Ltd.
President, EC Resources, Ltd.
ARRL/ARES Section Emergency Coordinator, Wisconsin
RACES Chief Radio Officer, Wisconsin

**Ninth Annual Wisconsin ARES/RACES
Conference**
Saturday, October 27, 2007, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 28, 2007, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Kimberly-Clark Corporation Neenah Conference Center
2300 Winchester Road Neenah, WI 54956**

Talk-in – 146.655, PL 100.0

Please join us for the ninth annual ARES/RACES Conference! This year's conference is open to everyone interested in ARES/RACES, including EMs, NWS and other private disaster relief personnel. Pizza will be served for lunch Saturday. Refreshments, less coffee, will be provided both days. Cost is \$10.00, which includes lunch and refreshments for Saturday. Sunday's registration fee will be \$5.00 or both days, \$15.00. You may attend Saturday or Sunday or both. Payment will be collected at the conference and preregistration is required.. It needs to be received by October 20, 2007. Please complete the registration form online at <http://www.wi-aresraces.org/2007confreg.htm> . A registration should be completed for each attendee, including nonARES/RACES personnel.

The Conference will be unique in many ways. It is the first time the Conference will be held over a weekend. Saturday will be similar to past conferences and Sunday will be a more relaxed, interactive day. Updates on the 2007 WI ARES/RACES objectives will be provided. Please plan on attending this conference and learn and share as much as possible. Take the opportunity to talk with someone you don't know and learn from each other. Tomorrow, you may be reliant upon them for emergency communications support.

Please invite your County Emergency Management Coordinator, Red Cross or Salvation Army's Director or your hospital contact! It will be well worthwhile and give you the opportunity to display the strength and professionalism of Wisconsin ARES/RACES! See you there!

SEC Bill Niemuth, KB9ENO: bniemuth@new.rr.com 920-779-0611

**UP Hamfest 2007 July 28th in
Escanaba**

From:

<http://www.dcars.org>

The UP Hamfest for 2007 will be held on July 28th in Escanaba again this year. The annual event is sponsored by DCARS and Bay de Noc Community College. Events for this year include a Swap and Shop, meetings and door prizes.

Set up time is Friday July 27th from 6 pm to 10 pm and Saturday from 7 am to 9am.

Doors open at 9:00 am

Hamfest hours are 9 am to 1 pm.

Tables are only \$5.00 and Admittance is the same low price of \$5:00.

If you want to reserve a table mail requests to:

Richard Thompson, N8OYR
N8OYR@DCARS.ORG

9560 Chaison N.5 Road

Gladstone, Michigan 49837

Phone (906) 428-2528.

Talk in on the 147.24 Repeater (107.2 Tone)

Directions:

The UP Hamfest will be located at the Joseph Heiman University (Building 9) center at Bay de Noc Community College. The College is on the North end of Escanaba along the combined highways of US 2 and 41 and M35. Directions form the North or East, after crossing the Escanaba River, turn right at the second traffic light (Danforth Road). Travel one block and turn right into Parking Lot D.

Directions form the South or West, US 2 and 41 combine with M35 in Escanaba, Take M35 North until passing under the via duct. Turn left at the first traffic light on to Danforth Road, travel one block and turn right into Parking Lot D.

GPS Coordinates are N45 Degrees
46.226Minutes and W87 Degrees 5.08Minutes.

More Proof of Clout

from:

Weavers Words

James Weaver, K8JE k8je@arrl.org
ARRL Great Lakes Division Director

If you want more proof that Amateur Radio and you have clout, you need look only as far as Michigan's 1st Congressional District.

Most of you do not know that I sent a special request to members in this District to double their effort in asking Rep. Bart Stupak to co-sponsor HR 462. They did . . . and he did.

Thanks to the combined, splendid effort of ARRL members in the 1st District and our Congressional lobbyist in Washington, Mr. Stupak has signed on to co-sponsor the bill.

Unknown to most of you, I also sent a request to members who lived in Rep. Dennis Kucinich's District in Ohio to let me know if they had special acquaintance with the Congressman. One member stepped forward, offered to write and followed through. In doing this, he fulfilled a request from Mr. Kucinich's aide in DC for one letter from a constituent asking him to initiate hearings on FCC's rules regarding BPL - - most importantly the rule that gives Part 15 devices priority over licensed radio services when it come to interference.

While on the topic of special requests, it has been a busy time for our Legislative Action folks. I also sent a special letter to our Kentucky members asking them to write to Sen. Mitch McConnell to support S. 1629. This is the bill in the US Senate that is very similar to HR 462 in the US House. Mr. McConnell is on a critical committee in the Senate that is studying the bill. We want his support in moving S. 1629 from Committee to the Floor of the Senate.

Broadband over Power Lines (BPL)

By: Steve KD8CCP

Everyday I see many articles fly by on "BPL" or Broadband over Power Lines and hear that it will be bad for Amateur Radio. I still consider myself a rookie Ham operator so I am not sure what BPL is, let alone what it means to Amateur Radio. The fact that the ARRL and FCC are now in court and "we" are urging our local Representative in Congress, Bart Stupak to sponsor and pass a bill on this has made me realize I needed to do some homework on the subject! I started my research by hitting the ARRL web page where I found a great amount of information.

I think we all understand that the phone lines we have in our house can easily carry voice and data to allow us to use the internet. A modem converts data into a form that can be sent over the wire and back again into the form we see on our computer.

We all demanded faster speeds so telephone responded with DSL and Cable responded with even faster speeds using the larger size cable hooked to our houses and businesses. The problem with DSL is that you have to be within a certain geographical area from the phone company switch to get it. As you get further away from the main line the speed drops out. Cable is still expensive and again not available to the masses either.

BPL could be the answer. Broadband over Power Lines uses our existing power network. A Radio Frequency (RF) is sent along the power lines and into our house to allow us internet connectivity. The basic idea: Any copper wire will transport any electrical signal for a certain distance, and this radio signal can carry the data we want to send and receive. Fast data and available hookup to almost everyone.

If we want a fast internet connection we need bandwidth, bandwidth is what makes the internet transfer rates fast. Think of it as simply shipping data through a pipe, the bigger the pipe the more data that can be handled and thus the speed increases. We can see this in action with both DSL and Cable. You pay more for high speed but what your are actually buying is bandwidth.

The BPL concept requires high speed fiber lines placed at substations to allow enough bandwidth for customers. If you get too many customers on the system in your area or "node" customers will notice the speed drops. Cable tv is careful to watch how many users are on local nodes and if customers complain about speed they often add another node to the area, essentially adding more capacity.

BPL will require a significant investment. The plan is to have each power substation act as the backbone to the network to keep enough bandwidth. Thus a fiber line will have to be installed at each substation too. I think this part of the equation could hold back the implementation of BPL, after all most of us have phone lines and if the phone company invested enough we could all have DSL too!

Now for the real issue....

BPL makes the system a giant antenna and the signal radiates out causing interference. Every other form of RF must keep from interfering on another form of communication, except BPL, ...it seems to be getting an exception from the FCC. The ARRL does not oppose this form of communication, it is simply asking BPL to keep its communication within its operating range and not interfere with Ham radio, or even emergency frequencies like police and fire.

If BPL wants to join the RF playing field it must keep from interfering with anyone else. This concept seems simple to me. Can you imagine if all the forms of communication that will be developed over the next 100 years are allowed to simply radiate around the neighborhood on any frequency at anytime, we would get nothing but static on our radios and televisions and even phones!

I think the BPL engineers need to solve the interference problem first, then worry about implementing and testing the concept.

For more information please go to the ARRL web site and read up on this very important issue:

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/>

FCC Responds to ARRL's BPL Brief

From:
ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 28, July 06,2007

Earlier this week, the FCC filed its reply brief with the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. The FCC attempted to rebut the [ARRL's challenge](#) to the FCC's Broadband over Power Line (BPL) rules enacted in late 2004 and affirmed by the agency in 2006. According to ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, "The FCC's brief does not accurately describe ARRL's arguments concerning harmful interference."

Given what is in essence a 100 percent probability of interference from BPL systems to fixed and mobile HF facilities at significant distances from power lines, Imlay said Section 301 of the [Communications Act](#) does not allow unlicensed BPL systems to operate in the HF bands. "Basically, Section 301 says you can not operate a radio frequency emitting device without a license. The legislative purpose of Section 301 is clearly to avoid interference. FCC's Part 15 rules have assumed that certain very low power devices and systems can operate without predictable interference, thus allowing them to operate without a license, notwithstanding Section 301. But with BPL, the FCC has ignored conclusive record evidence which shows that there will be, and in fact our experience conclusively demonstrates, that BPL causes severe interference to licensed services," Imlay said.

The FCC claims that it has the authority to permit unlicensed BPL under Section 302 of the Act; this section allows the FCC to regulate the interference potential of RF devices. What Section 302 does not do, Imlay said, is to create a loophole in, or modify, or invalidate Section 301.

"It is the ARRL's position," Imlay said, "that the FCC can regulate and authorize BPL with certain safeguards, consistent with the terms of Section 301. However, the FCC simply cannot honestly maintain the position that BPL has an inherently low interference potential. It has a high interference potential, and the rules they have enacted to date are woefully inadequate and insufficient to address it". The ARRL has long maintained that BPL, when not adequately "notched," causes harmful interference to Amateur Radio operations. In its brief, the FCC claims BPL does not cause significant interference and the Courts must defer to the FCC's expertise to decide this issue.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said, "The FCC misrepresents the ARRL's position as being that the FCC has no authority to allow unlicensed devices that pose any risk whatsoever of causing interference to licensed services. That's not our position at all. Our position is that the FCC possessed clear evidence, at the time it made its BPL decisions, that the limits it was adopting would allow the deployment of BPL systems with a near-100 percent probability of causing harmful interference to radio receivers hundreds of feet from the power lines. Yet, despite this evidence it characterized the likelihood of harmful interference as 'low.'"

The brief goes on to say that, in the FCC's view, mobile stations and fixed stations are protected against harmful interference from BPL. But with respect to mobile stations complaining of interference, the FCC requires only that BPL operators reduce the radiated emission levels to 20 dB below the Part 15 maximum levels for radiated emissions. This, in the HF bands, still permits BPL noise at levels that preclude communications entirely. It offers mobile stations no protection whatsoever, Imlay stated.

Sumner explained, "The FCC claims that it continues to protect mobile stations from harmful interference, but it does so simply by defining whatever interference a mobile station might encounter from a notched BPL system as not harmful! None of the steps to limit the interference potential of BPL systems that the FCC took in this rulemaking proceeding reduce the likelihood of interference to the amateur service, and to this day the FCC has declined to enforce its rules even when protracted violations and interference have been documented."

FCC's brief also attempted to justify its presumption that a BPL radiated interfering signal decays at a rate of 40 dB per decade of distance. "A 'decade of distance' is a factor of 10," Imlay explained. "For example, if a victim receiver moves from 3-30 feet from the power lines (10 times further away), that is one decade of distance. For each decade of distance, the FCC believes that there is a 40 dB signal decay. In the HF bands, however, the evidence in the record shows that the signal decay is closer to 20 dB than 40 dB per decade of distance from the power lines. The FCC's brief claimed that there was conflicting evidence on the subject, but ARRL's view is that the FCC merely avoided consideration of the overwhelming evidence favoring the more conservative decay factor."

Imlay said the ARRL has asked the Court to order the FCC to "rethink the rules governing BPL and for the first time to take into account the evidence on the record concerning harmful interference to Amateur Radio." ARRL's reply brief is due for filing with the Court July 28, 2007. There is no date set yet for oral argument before the three-judge panel in Washington, DC.

**Future Testing Schedule – Upper Peninsula
V.E. TESTING:**

08/04 Iron Mountain: 9:00am Central time, (arrive by 8:30am) Dickinson County Library (Conference room), contact Mark J. Lewis N8UKD, 412 Fairmount St. Kingsford, Mi 49802

09/08 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 906 249-3837 or e-mail: n8gba@chartermi.net

09/08 Houghton: 8:30am Eastern time, Room G04 (In the basement) of Wadsworth Residence Hall at M-T-U (Michigan Technological University) Parking available (free) across Hwy U.S. 41 from This building, contact George Thurner W8FWG at 906 337-2542 or e-mail w8fwg@arrl.net

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 \$14.00. Please have the correct fee as examiners do not carry change.

Please contact the individual(s) listed to confirm date(s), location(s), etc.

ARRL EXPO at 2007 National Convention in Huntsville

from:
ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 28 July 13, 2007

Join the ARRL in Huntsville, Alabama the weekend of August 18-19, 2007 for the ARRL National Convention, held at the Huntsville Hamfest, in the all air-conditioned Von Braun Center.

The Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communication Conference (GAREC) will meet in Huntsville prior to the hamfest on Thursday and Friday, August 16-17. This year, the ARRL is pulling out all the stops in planning the National Convention. According to ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, "ARRL will have a big exhibit on the convention floor for ARRL EXPO 2007.

The ARRL EXPO was first introduced as a major component of the 2005 National Convention in Dayton, Ohio. We're excited to bring this exposition to Huntsville." This special exhibit area will feature ARRL program representatives, activities, presentations and the huge ARRL bookstore. Get a free gift when you join or renew your ARRL membership at the ARRL EXPO.

*Plan on picking up a free 2007 National Convention button and frequency chart, as well as free copies of QST, NCJ and QEX (while supplies last).

*See live presentations every half hour at the ARRL Stage.

*Hear from ARRL volunteers and staff on a variety of topics.

ARRL EXPO is equipped with wireless Internet. Any laptop or device equipped for wireless will enjoy Internet access within the ARRL EXPO vicinity. ARRL EXPO will also include a small Internet cafe with computers set up to browse. Access your e-mail and the Internet. Surf away -- compliments of ARRL.

Last year, more than 4000 people attended the Huntsville Hamfest; organizers expect 2007's attendance to top 5000, with more than 40 vendors displaying their Amateur Radio wares. Almost 400 tables will be available for rental.

Unlike many other hamfests, the flea market is in an air-conditioned building, something much appreciated in Alabama in August.

An exciting forums schedule is in store:

*Dr David Hathaway, a nationally known and well-respected expert on Sunspot activity and solar cycles, will be speaking.

*Dr Monte Bateman will return to the hamfest this year. He's NASA's "Go-to Guy" when it comes to weather, specializing in lightning strike predictions and prevention. In the past, his forums have been standing-room only as he discusses lightning prevention as it applies to Amateur Radio.

*Along with, and in conjunction with the National Young Ham of the Year awards, Rebekah Dorff, W4Y (2006's National YHOTY), will host Alabama's YHOTY activities, including a youth lounge for young hams, and prospective or new hams. The YHOTY for 2007, Grant Morine, W4GHM, is expected to be on hand to receive his award.

*On Saturday, August 18, The ARRL Alabama Section will host a reception for Southeastern Division Director Frank M. Butler Jr, W4RH, honoring Frank's dedication and longtime service to ARRL and Amateur Radio.

*There will also be a D-STAR users' meeting and reception on Saturday evening from 6-8, hosted by the Alabama D-STAR Group. New and experienced D-STAR users are invited to attend to learn about D-STAR networks and to meet other users and digital technology experimenters.

*A DX Banquet is also planned for Saturday at 6:30 PM. Bob Allphin, K4UEE, will speak on the VU7 Lakshadweep DXpedition.

Tickets are \$29 per person. For more information on the ARRL National Convention, please see <http://www.arrl.org/announce/nc/2007/huntsville.html> To find out more about the Huntsville Hamfest, please see <http://www.hamfest.org> .

CLUB EQUIPMENT LIST:

TOM MARTIN W8JWN has custody of the following club equipment:

Gin pole for Rohn tower sections with 100 feet of rope.

Small TV type rotor and control.

Dipole antennas for 80,40,20,15 and 10 meters with 50 feet of RG58 coax.

Various lengths of string for antennas (not very heavy).

RG8X with double shield (100 ft).

3/16 Single Braid Dacron rope (200 ft).

20 meter open stub (nulls 40 and 15 meters).

40 meter shorted stub (nulls 20 and 10 meters).

40 meter shorted stub (nulls 15 meters).

6 PL259 silver connectors.

4 T-adapters for stubs.

4 UG-176 silver sleeves.

3 right-angle connectors.

Hygain tri-band beam antenna.

G5RV antenna.

Club banner.

MIKE BRAY K8DDB has custody of the following club equipment:

40 foot light tower, guy ropes, anchor stakes, drive-on tilt base.

Lafayette 80 - 10 meter tube type VFO #99-2501 with operating manual.

J-38 Morse code straight key.

Lambda model LT-2095A-1583 power supply 0 to +32VDC, 2 amp (rack mount).

Multi-meter ME-26D/U (old military type) by Sentinel Electronics, Inc.

Power supply (partially built - home brew).

Duplexer (rack mount - home brew) TX and RX cans- possibly 440 MHz.

LEE MICHAUD N8LT has custody of the following club equipment:

Multi-band wire antenna - Paul Hint's old antenna.

Sheriff's Office Garage has the following club equipment stored:

Honda EM 3800 Generator SN EAMC 1004814 with battery

Gas Can

Auto Battery Charger/Maintainer

2 - 80 foot extension cords

Sta-Bil Fuel Stability

1000 watt light stand kit

Astron RS-35M DC power supply

RIGrunner RR/4008/C outlet strip

Isobar-8 Ultra Premium surge protector.

Furman M-8D Power Conditioner.

Club Patches are Available From:

Dennis Beurjey, K8SWX
612 Balsam Street
Kingsford, Mi 49802

They are 3 inches in diameter and sell for \$3.00 each. If ordering by mail, please include a self addressed stamp envelope along with your payment.

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

<u>Output</u>	<u>Offset</u>	<u>PL Tone</u>
146.850 MHz	minus	-----
444.850 MHz	plus	-----

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.

Links

ARRL WEB PAGE: <http://www.arrl.org>
ARRL MICHIGAN: <http://www.arrl-mi.org/>
US REPEATERS:
<http://www.usrepeaters.com>
MICH-A-CON : _____
<http://www.qsl.net/ka1ddb>
Tropospheric Ducting Forecasts: _
<http://www.dxinfocentre.com/tropo.html>
FCC Universal Licensing System:
<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>
QTH.COM: <http://www.qth.com/>
QRZ.COM: <http://www.qrz.com/>
Ehamnet.com: <http://www.eham.net/>

AUTO PATCH PROCEDURES

Did you know our Club has an Auto Patch on both of our Repeaters? The 2-Meter repeater can be used with permission and the 440 repeater is for club use only. The auto patch can be used for making local phone calls from your radio. Remember that you can make calls for most things.... even order pizza, but it is not to be used for business purposes. Here is what to do:

- LISTEN. If the repeater is open proceed.
- Key up the repeater and identify yourself. IE: "This is KD8CCP Accessing Auto Patch."
- Push the transmit key and press the * key.
This should give you a dial tone.
- Push the transmit key again and dial as normal. Talk as you normally would on air but remember to tell the person called you are on the air.
- Inform the called party to pause when you are talking because you will not be able to hear them while transmitting.
- When you are done with the conversation push the transmit key again and push the # key. This releases the repeater.
- Identify yourself and release the repeater.

Now its your turn. Next time you are on the air and it seems quiet... experiment ... try out the Auto Patch. It is important for all HAMS to be familiar with the auto patch procedures for emergency use too!

Mich-A-Con ARC Activities for August 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2 ARES	3	4
5 UPSN	6	7	8	9 ARES	10	11
12 UPSN	13	14 Meeting	15	16 ARES	17	18 BREAKFAST
19 UPSN	20	21	22	23 ARES	24	25
26 UPSN	27	28	29	30 ARES	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 EchoLink. (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 evening on our 2-meter repeater (146.850 MHz).

Meeting: The Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Dickinson County Library. Visitors and prospective members are always welcome!

Our Saturday Morning Breakfast is held on the 3rd Saturday of every month at 9:00 AM in the Holiday Kitchen Restaurant on Stephenson Avenue (US-2) in Iron Mountain, across from Econo Foods. Why not enjoy a good meal and camaraderie with your fellow members?

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.

MICH-A-CON RF

Mich-A-Con ARC
c/o Stephen Skauge
945 Woodward Ave Apt 5
Kingsford, Mi. 49802-4438

Club Meetings:

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

The URL for the Mich-A-Con ARC web site is:
<http://www.qsl.net/ka1ddb/>

Previous editions of Mich-A-Con Rf can be accessed by a link on the news page.

The ARRL DX Bulletin on the Upcoming Activities page is updated each Thursday and the contests section is updated on a monthly basis.

Club Officers:

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

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

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

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

Reminders:

Club dues for the year 2007 were payable on January 1st. 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 August is on Tuesday the 14th at 7:00 PM at the Dickinson County Library.

