

Mich-A-Con RF

Iron Mountain, Michigan

July 6, 2012

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Visit the ARRL's Web Site at
<http://www.arrl.org>

Words from the President

Tom, W8JWN

Results from Field Day 2012 are yet to be finalized but early indications are that it was one of our more successful entries. Operating from a new location at the Florence Fairgrounds and using new 9th call area call signs, made for an enjoyable Field Day.

We used Dave Thomas's call, KG9Y, for the two stations and Terry Moriarity's call, K9TRY, for the GOTA station. Mike Boileau, W9MB, brought his 13 year old son, Nathan, to try his hand on the new GOTA radio. AND did he produce ! He made 70 of the 80 GOTA contacts. Hopefully, we'll have "young blood" in our club this fall.

The weather was a bit damp the entire weekend. Terry had to operate under a tarp for many hours. He'd better get his canopy sealed before next year. Hi! The bands were OK, nothing special. We didn't have a 10, or a 6 meter opening. However, Dave made 24 solar powered SSB contacts with just 4 watts.

The new 40 meter add-on kit for the A3S worked very well. The 80 meter loop was outstanding! I worked stations on CW with only one call. It was also a very quiet antenna.

There was no interference from RTTY this year. We didn't have to use filters or stubs. At one time, we had both stations on 20 meters at the same time and there was no interference.

One area of concern that must be addressed before the next Field Day is the band plan for each of the three stations. The GOTA station did have interference from one, if not both, of the two main stations.

QSO totals, bonus points, and the final results will be available at the next meeting. At that time, we will also get your input on ways to improve next year's FD. If you can't make the meeting; feel free to email me your suggestions.

Thanks go out to all of the hams, and non-hams, that participated in setup and take down:

Terry K9TRY
Dave KG9Y
Joe KC9TQR
Burt WB8EBS
Mike W9MB
Al K9ECG
Dana KD8POR
Paul KD8KUF
Scott KA8TFF
Tom KC8TH and Myrna
Art KD8GLO



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 each.

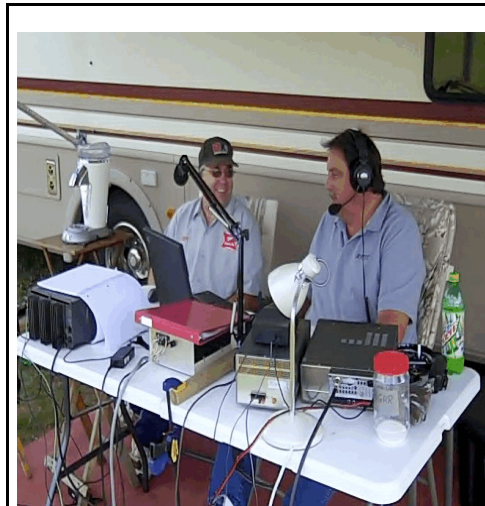
If ordering by mail please include a SASE along with your payment.

Field Day 2012

Photos submitted by Tom, W8JWN



Gota and 100MP Station



Dave KG9Y and Terry K9TRY



Joe, KC9TQR on the 1000MP

Mich-A-Con ARC Activities for July 2012

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

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 3rd 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 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 under normal conditions, depending upon terrain. The 440 MHz repeater has a range of about 25 miles.

<i>OUTPUT</i>	<i>OFFSET</i>	<i>PLTONE</i>	<i>CALLSIGN</i>
146.850	<i>MINUS</i>	-	<i>WA8FXQ</i>
444.850	<i>PLUS</i>	100 Hz	<i>WA8FXQ</i>

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 ft.

V.E. TESTING:

8/4 Iron Mountain: 9:30am central time, Dickinson County Library(conference room), contact Mark J. Lewis N8UKD, Fairmount St. Kingsford, Mi 49802. Examinees must be pre-registered. (906-776-1553).

9/8Marquette: 8:30am eastern time, (arrive by 8:00am) Marquette County Health Dept. Bldg,U.S. 41 just east of the Michigan State Police Post. You must pre-register by Tuesday preceding the test date. Contact Rich Schwenke, N8GBA at 906 249-3837 e-mail: n8gba@chartermi.net or Greg KI8AF 906 225-1594 ki8af@arrl.net.

10/13 Hancock: 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@arrl.net if you have questions. You can now take a Hamexam "Anytime". Contact Glenn, WA8QNF at (906)482-7743 for details.

7/14 Gladstone: Sponsor: Delta County Amateur Radio Society Time:10:00 AM (Walk-ins welcome) Contact: Dave Palmgren N8DP, (906) 428-2271, n8dp@dcars.org 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

Please remit dues to :
Burt Armbrust WB8EBS
693

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip _____

Please make check payable to Mich-A-Con ARC
Annual dues for Full Membership - Single \$20 __ * Family \$30 __
Repeater Only \$10 __**

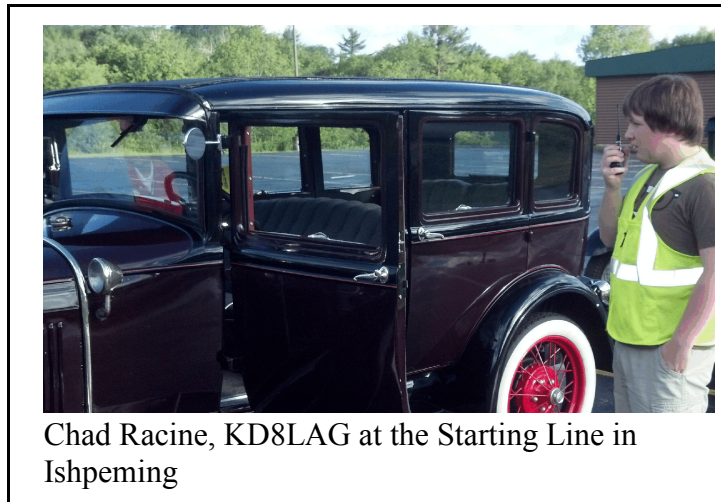
If family membership, please list additional names and call signs: _____
City, State, Zip _____
Call Sign: _____
Email Address: _____
Phone: _____
ARRL Member? Yes ___ **No** ___

The 2012 Model A Convention by: Paul, KB0P

Ahooga! Several Model A cars passed me as I stood along side the highway, waving, each one blowing their horn as they putted by. "These are beautiful cars", I dreamed about simpler times, wondering what it was like back in the late 1920's and early 1930's when these vehicles were brand new and state of the art.

On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, June 19, 20, and 21, members of the HARA (Marquette County), the Keweenaw radio clubs, and the Iron Mountain radio club volunteered their time to operate check points for the tours that were organized by the **Superior A's**, the local chapter of the **Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA)**. The 2012 MAFCA Convention was held in the U.P., and over 300 Model A vehicles converged on the Marquette area to celebrate and show off the historical Model A. Edsel Ford II (great grandson to Henry Ford) even showed up for the event. During the week-long convention, the **Superior A's** organized a tour to Alberta, Pequaming, and Kingsford, allowing the owners of the Model A's to tour their vehicles through the central U.P. to visit historical Ford sites. Amateur Radio operators were asked to assist with these tours by setting up check points along the routes to insure that each Model A reached their destination, safely.

The 3-day touring event went well, and all the amateur radio operators that participated had a wonderful time. Radio headquarters was set up at the Blimpie Restaurant, and the starting line for the tours was across the street in the parking lot of the Country Lanes bowling alley, both located in the Country Village in Ishpeming. Each day from 8:00 AM to noon, groups of



Chad Racine, KD8LAG at the Starting Line in Ishpeming

Model A's left Ishpeming to travel 1 ½ hours to their destination, at a speed of 45 MPH. Each group consisted of an average of 12 Model A vehicles and they left the start line in 20 minute intervals. Each group was identified by a letter and as each group passed the many checkpoints along the way, the hams reported back to radio headquarters the amount of Model A vehicles that passed their point. We did not lose any cars along the way and did not have to dispatch repair teams to retrieve broken down Model A's-- all went well.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, using 2 meters, HQ operated on the 147.270 MHz repeater (the "27" repeater) and the the hams in Baraga County

operated on the 146.880 MHz repeater (the "88" repeater). The 27 repeater system and the 88 repeater were linked together for the event via the Internet, using Echolink. Despite a minor technical complication, this link worked fairly well and proved reliable. On Thursday, HQ continued to operate on the 27 repeater and an attempt to link in the 146.850 MHz repeater in Iron Mountain (the 85 repeater) was made, but there was a technical issue, which would have been problematic. So, Paul, KB0P operated a relay station at his home in Ishpeming, and all radio traffic between the 27 repeater system and the 85 repeater was manually relayed back and forth. This worked well.

I would like to thank everybody who participated in this special event; a one-time event for our area. The organizers of the **Superior A's** express their gratitude and shares their appreciation to all of you. Once again, we amateur radio operators were able to provide a useful service to those in need. To us, operating a radio and communicating seems trivial at times, but to those who are not familiar with amateur radio, they are amazed by what we can do, and on such short notice. Thank you.

Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the June 12, 2012 Meeting

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

Secretary Report

Minutes are posted online & in newsletter.

Treasurer Report

Membership Dues Received: \$15.00

Checks were written to: \$100.00 Florence Co. fairgrounds. \$128.65 Tom Martin

Balances as of June 1st, 2012:

Checking - \$46.42

Regular Savings - \$2,750.21, of which \$1,827.64 is in the Trailer Fund.

Repeater Savings - \$1,055.54

Petty Cash - \$6.00

Repeater Report

The repeater has been working fine. Terry Moriarity received the manuals from Bob Myers. Next Thurs. from 7:00am to 1:00pm the repeater will be used for the Model A rally so we appreciate no idle chit-chat at that time.

ARES

Dennis Beurjey reported that there will be a state wide exercise drill at 8:00 am on Saturday morning at the Sheriff's Dept. Pete Schlitt reported that a 2 meter & HF test will be performed for the purpose to determine if the equipment is working properly. Contact Dennis if you would like to attend. Pete is attempting to acquisition a laptop computer for the station.

Old Business

Field Day: Starts 1:00pm on Saturday. Ends at 1:00pm on Sunday. Terry Moriarity reported that setup will begin on Friday at 2:00 pm. Posters were passed around for distribution. Antennas: G5RV for GOTA station, loop antenna for 20-80. Hex beam for 6,10,15 & 20. One 40 meter and one 80 meter dipole antenna will be setup. The lift from Lofholm lumber will be setup and the tower w/ hexbeam and another tower. Operators will be anyone that's available. A CW operator is needed.

Terry will bring all the food. Paul will bring the BBQ grille. Picnic will start around **11:30 Saturday**.

New Business

Dennis Beurjey displayed GR level 3 storm spotter software on his laptop computer. Cost of the program is \$75 (one time).

Dana Bey asked about the VE testing for 8/14 per the newsletter. Is this a typo? July?

Jim Faulkner, KC8CKX from Foster City recently purchased a used HF radio, etc. and is looking for an Elmer to help him get setup and on the air. If you can help, please give him a call at (906)246-3884. Jim is retired.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

For the Good of the Order

Attendees reported on their recent activities.

Submitted by Paul Schultz

Attendees

Tom Martin, W8JWN - President
Burton Armbrust Sr., WB8EBS - Treasurer
Scott Jarmusch, KA8TFF - Vice President
Paul Schultz, KD8KUF - Secretary
Dana Bey, KD8POR
Art Costa, KD8GLO
Joe Ferris, KC9TQR
Joe Komblevicz, KB8ETK
Terry Moriarity, K9TRY
Dennis Beurjey, K8SWX
Al Poquette, K9ECG
Jim Faulkner, KC8CKX
Gary Schafer, K4FMX
Pete Schlitt, KC8JRH
Jim Rye, W8IFI

Colorado Hams Provide Disaster Communications During Wildfires

from:
ARRL Letter July 5th, 2012 and www.arrl.org

07/05/2012

Thanks to an extremely dry season, portions of Colorado have been ravaged by wildfires. As of July 5, only a handful of the fires are considered extinguished or fully contained, with the majority considered still active. According to InciWeb, almost 170,000 acres are affected by 11 active fires. Since June 9 -- when the High Park Fire, the first of the wildfires began -- hams in Colorado have been assisting with disaster communications, providing communications support to the State and served agencies.

Randy Long, K7AVV, of Masonville, told the Denver Post in an article published June 14, that beginning June 10, he "he has been managing operators staffing eight-hour shifts around the clock. [The hams have been] doing such things as setting up portable radio repeaters and relaying messages between the fire lines and command posts. About 40 operators have volunteered [to help provide communications support]."

Along with Long, Robert Wareham, N0ESQ and a handful of ARES volunteers reported to the National Guard Armory in Fort Collins as the High Park fire encircled the Buckhorn and Horsetooth mountains, the sites for some of the public safety communications towers for Larimer County. "These are the kind of things we train for day in and day out," Wareham told the Denver Post. "We just want to keep the people in this county safe." The paper reported that there are about 50 repeater sites located in the mountains.

Shortly after the High Park broke out, radio amateurs in Estes Park and Fort Collins were called upon to help provide communications support to the American Red Cross. Hams set up antennas and a crossband repeater to provide communications from Red Cross Headquarters in Estes Park to their facilities at the fire base, as well as to a Red Cross evacuation center that had been set up at a local high school.

ARRL Colorado Section Manager Jack Ciaccia, WM0G, and ARRL Boulder County Emergency Coordinator Allen Bishop, K0ARK, were returning from the High Park Fire on June 26 when they were notified that Boulder County Office of Emergency Management had activated ARES for another fire, the Flagstaff Fire. According to Ciaccia, a lightning strike had hit just west of Boulder, causing a 20 acre that had spread to 230 acres in only 30 minutes, due to high winds.

"The Boulder Office of Emergency Management wanted Boulder County ARES (BCARES) positions manned at the Emergency Operations Center," Ciaccia told the ARRL. "They also wanted to send additional operators to video positions and set up packet and voice communications at a local school noted, as it would serve as the evacuation center. We set up a resource net on the local Boulder Amateur Radio Club repeater and assigned a Net Control Station to set up there."

Ciaccia said that within one hour, ATV hams with BCARES had a video camera set up, while other hams at the evacuation center team had set up packet communications, providing data and video, as well as 2 meter FM voice communications. "Another net was up and running simultaneously on our operations repeater, with another Net Control Station working at the EOC," he explained. "Other portable video positions were fully operational by the end of two hours. Our live video feeds were up on the huge video screens at the EOC, allowing the entire emergency staff to see helitankers and US Forest Service bomber aircraft making fire retardant drops. They could also see the fire live from the backside, which was not otherwise visible without our portable ATV teams live video feeds. When the Type I federal fire teams showed up to determine whether the fire would escalate to their level, they noticed the live video feeds at the EOC and made special trips to our field video sites. They were unaware that a TV resource was available that could be used for their purposes and were quite pleased at that capability and wanted us to continue operations if it escalated to a Type I." The fire never grew beyond 300 acres and it remained at a Type II level."

"The served agencies -- the Boulder County Sheriff's Office and their Office of Emergency Management -- were extremely pleased that we responded so fast and so well," Ciaccia told the ARRL. "Joe Pelle, the Boulder County Sheriff, made it a point to stop by and thank us, as did Mike Chard, the Director of the Boulder Office of Emergency Management."

ARRL Offers Online Public Service Training

from:

ARRL Letter June 28, 2012 and www.arrl.org

06/22/2012

The former Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (AREC) series of three levels of emergency communications courses has been reconfigured into two new courses: An introductory course for radio amateurs who want to volunteer to provide services for public service and emergency communications, and a course for leaders and managers who are responsible for training and coordinating response efforts. The course descriptions for both of these courses that make up the ARRL's ARES® training program can be found in the ARRL Online Course Catalog. Links to register for each course are included in the course descriptions.

Introduction to Emergency Communication

The Introduction to Emergency Communication course (#EC-001) is an update of the former Level 1 course. It is designed to provide basic knowledge and tools for any ham who wants to serve as a Public Service volunteer. It also provides an opportunity for non-hams who rely on communications in emergency situations to learn about Amateur Radio and its unique role in emergencies.

The course is offered online using the Moodle online learning platform. When you register for the course, you will need to demonstrate completion of two FEMA course pre-requisites: Introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS-100 [IS-100.b]) and National Incident Management System (IS-700). The Introduction to Emergency Communication course has six sections with 29 lesson topics. It includes required student activities along with a 35 question final assessment. Participants should plan on completing the course in approximately 45 hours over a nine week period. You will have access to the course platform at any time of day during this nine week period, so you may work according to your own schedule. This is a mentored course. You will be assigned to correspond with an experienced radio amateur who will be your resource for any questions you have about the course content.

The fee for this course is \$50 for ARRL members and \$85 for non-members and those who register for "Guest" membership on the ARRL website.

Public Service and Emergency Communications Management for Radio Amateurs

The Public Service and Emergency Communications Management for Radio Amateurs course (#EC-016) is designed for Amateur Radio operators who will be in leadership and managerial roles, organizing other volunteers to support public service activities and communications emergencies. In this course, participants will learn how radio amateurs prepare and organize to support local community events and, when working in coordination with governmental and other emergency response organizations, how to deploy their services to provide communications when needed in an emergency.

This course is available online on the ARRL website to all League members. The course can be accessed without a fee or enrollment directly through the ARRL website. To view the course, you must be logged into the ARRL website as a member, or as a "Guest" member. This is a self-study course that you may complete at your own pace.

To enroll for the final assessment for this course and to receive a course completion certificate, documentation of completion of course pre-requisites (you'll find the list in the course description) and a \$35 fee is necessary. Depending upon your role and responsibilities, consult your Section Emergency Coordinator or Section Manager to determine if course completion with the final assessment is recommended.

Getting Licensed: New Amateur Extra Class Question Pool Effective July 1

from:

ARRL Letter, June 14, 2012

The new Amateur Extra class (Element 4) question pool -- released by the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) in January 2012 -- becomes effective on Sunday, July 1. The current Amateur Extra class pool expires on June 30, 2012 and cannot be used after that date. This new question pool -- including graphics and diagrams -- will remain valid until June 30, 2016. The new Amateur Extra pool contains 702 questions, from which 50 are selected for an Element 4 examination. As of June 13, three questions -- E1D09, E2A14 and E6E10 -- have been removed from the new pool. The current Technician class question pool that became effective July 1, 2010 is valid through June 30, 2014. The current General class pool that became effective July 1, 2011 is valid until June 30, 2015.

Digital Edition of July QST Available June 15

from:

ARRL Letter June 14, 2012

The digital version of the July QST will be available to ARRL members on Friday, June 15. The digital version includes many features not available in the print version, such as:

- An expanded look at the Dayton Hamvention® (including a look at the many new products that were introduced).
- Product Review videos on the Alinco DJ-G29T dual-band handheld transceiver and the WaveNode WN-2d station monitoring system.
- Audio from "A Transceiver Comes Home," by QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY.
- Links to the winning videos from the 2012 QST Video Contest.

Watch your e-mail inbox for a link to the digital edition of the July issue of QST.

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

Vice President:

Scott Jarmusch KA8TFF
s_jarmusch@yahoo.com

Secretary:

Paul Schultz KD8KUF
(906) 774-8900
pauls@schultzequipment.com

Treasurer:

Burt Armbrust WB8EBS
(906) 774-8383 retary:
Paul Schultz KD8
wb8ebs@yahoo.com

Reminders:

Club dues for the year 2012 were payable on January 1st. 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 Next Mich-A-Con Meeting will be held on Tue July 10th, 2012. It will be held in the Dickinson County Library at 7 PM

Wanted:

**Your Articles, Your pictures
and your Input for the
Newsletter!**

Send them to:

kd8ccp@arrl.net