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MICH-A-CON RF

Iron Mountain, Michigan

September 2006

## **School Space Shuttle Program and Ham Radio Celebrate Twenty Year Anniversary!**

by Steve Skaug KD8CCP

The Marquette Area Public Schools (MAPS) in Marquette Michigan has been operating a simulated Space Shuttle Program for twenty years! This is an official NASA program that originally started in Cleveland, OH at NASA's Glen Research Center. Schools from across the country have participated in the program but Stuart Skaug (KD8DRD), a fifth grade teacher in Marquette, reports that he believes the MAPS is the only one still doing the project and most likely the only one that has been doing the program for all twenty years!

Mr. Skaug, (KD8DRD) noted that the first mission was in May of 1987. Each 5<sup>th</sup> grade class goes on a "Mission" or field trip that takes them to a "remote" location to do science experiments. Nine missions were made this year. Charlene Gilbert, a NASA technical assistant in the International Space Station program even visited earlier this year and talked to the kids about the Space Program. Stu Skaug, (KD8DRD) also noted the Ham radio operators have helped with the project for all twenty years, at times it involved as many as twenty-five operators in the project at one time!

This official NASA program uses a converted school bus made to look like a Space Shuttle. The program is on the second bus now and has seen many advances through the years. The bus has been fitted with computers, a portable weather station, GPS and most importantly, Amateur Radio Gear. The fifth grade students are the astronauts and actually have training on how to do many different projects and jobs to be performed when the "Shuttle" takes off and lands at an "Alien" field trip location. The students apply for the different jobs and are then appointed to the many positions needed on a Space Shuttle, like navigator, commander, botanist, meteorologists and of course... Radio Operator.

The student astronauts operate 2-meter radio equipment both at "Mission Control" in the school and on the "Shuttle" so they get training and have licensed operators overseeing them at all times. Gregg Hanson (KI8AF) helped with the training and put in a lot of hours setting up packet and checking the radios. Gregg was out of town this year for the missions but has always been a great help. I was able to help "train" some of the communication officers on how to operate the radios and even helped out one day in "Mission Control". Bruce Kobie, (K8FIX) and other Ham operators also helped out during the field trips this year.

I noted during my time with the kids that the position of Radio Operator was a job all the students wanted. They also were very eager to learn about the many types of radio operation and all very interested in how they could get a ham licenses. All were surprised to learn they did not have to be a certain age to get a license. I also told the students about the many astronauts, past and present that have ham radio licenses and even got a chance to tell them about some of the programs in place the International Space Station uses to talk to the students back here on earth!

Stuart Skaug (KD8DRD) also hopes to keep the program going and if all goes as planned make contact with a Space Mission next year! (I think I will have to help supervise on that day for sure!)



SK ENTERPRISE II



INSIDE THE SHUTTLE



PORTABLE WEATHER STATION



"ASTRONAUTS" ON THE AIR!



MEDICAL CHECK

**ASTRONAUT'S KIN AMONG MIDDLE SCHOOLERS FOR SPACE CONTACT VIA HAM RADIO**

From the ARRL/American Radio Relay League  
ARRL Letter  
Vol. 25, No. 36 September 8, 2006

ISS (International Space Station) astronaut Jeff Williams, KD5TVQ, got to answer questions about life in space from his niece and several of her classmates August 28 during an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contact with Northeast Middle School in Clarksville, Tennessee. Williams told his niece, Riley -- who asked the first question -- that he became an astronaut because it involves excitement and discovery.

"And flying in space is the current frontier for exploration," Williams remarked. If he were to pick another career, he said he'd return to the US Army.

WANTED: Your Article, Ideas and Input!  
Send it now to: [kd8ccp@arrl.net](mailto:kd8ccp@arrl.net)

A Wisconsin native, Williams is a graduate of the US Military Academy at West Point, New York. Another student wanted to know what an astronaut would do if the tether to the ISS broke during a space walk or EVA -- extra-vehicular activity -- as NASA calls it.

"Well, we're very careful, and our equipment is designed so that it won't break," Williams replied. "If that were to happen, though, when we're doing an American EVA -- in the American suits -- we have what we call 'safers.' They're little jet packs that we have on the backpack of the space suit, and we can fly back to the space station. They're only used for emergencies."  
(Continued next page....)

Responding to another question, Williams said it's not really known how long a human being could remain in space before encountering medical or health problems. He noted that the crew does keep a strict exercise regimen in space.

"We're learning to understand what happens to the human body after a long period of time [in space]," he continued. "Of course, most expeditions are about six months." But he noted that back in the days of the Russian Mir space station, one cosmonaut stayed aboard for 437 days "and he did well when he got back to the ground."

Williams and ISS Expedition 13 Commander Pavel Vinogradov, RV3BS, will return to Earth at the end of September. They've been in space since last April. European Space Agency astronaut Thomas Reiter, DF4TR, will remain aboard the ISS to help provide some crew continuity for the Expedition 14 team of NASA astronaut Michael Lopez-Alegria, KE5GTK, and Russian cosmonaut Mikhail Tyurin, RZ3FT.

In response to another question from his niece, Williams told the youngsters that the ISS crew has been growing a variety of plants as part of its scientific research. "The latest one we tried here was peas, and we had a great survival rate initially, but we had some kind of a problem, which we don't quite understand, and the peas all eventually died, so, we're still working on that," he said. "It's a very important experiment, especially for the future, to provide food, for example, when we go to Mars."

Northeast Middle School science teacher Sharon Fletcher said the ARISS contact had inspired a lot of interest among her students in becoming astronauts.

During the approximately 10-minute contact, the students had 18 questions asked and answered before the ISS went over the horizon at Earth station VK4KHZ in Australia. Verizon Conferencing donated a teleconferencing link to provide two-way audio between the school and VK4KHZ.

<http://www.rac.ca/ariss> is an international educational outreach, with US participation by ARRL, AMSA and NASA.

## JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLERS IN JAPAN SPEAK WITH ASTRONAUT VIA HAM RADIO

From the ARRL/American Radio Relay League

ARRL Letter Vol. 25, No. 35 September 1, 2006

Youngsters attending Yoshinari Junior High School in Sendai City, Japan, spoke August 25 with US astronaut Jeff Williams, KD5TVQ, at NA1SS on the International Space Station. The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program arranged the direct VHF contact between 8J7YJH and NA1SS. One student had a new twist on the often-asked "food question." She wanted to know if the food aboard the ISS could be better. "The food is actually very good. We have a wide variety of food that's both United States and Russian," Williams said. He explained that sometimes he'll get a craving for something that's not available in space, but "overall the food is pretty good."

Another student wondered if heated food in space gives off "steam" and if you can smell foods in space. "We don't see steam up here too much because the food doesn't get that hot, I guess, plus the humidity is pretty low here, but you can smell it," Williams responded. He explained that the crew warms up its meals either by injecting hot water or by using an oven in the ISS galley.

As had occurred during the previous ARISS school QSO with students gathered at Reece High School, in Devonport, Tasmania, Australia, Williams repeatedly experienced difficulty copying Earth station 8J7YJH, despite multiple attempts by control operator Toshiji Miyagawa, JE7KQU, to reestablish contact. At other times, the NA1SS signal appeared to experience strong interference that rendered Williams unreadable. A change to a backup VHF channel late in the approximately 10-minute pass permitted the students to have another two questions asked and answered.

Williams said that in his free time aboard the ISS, he enjoys looking out the window, making telephone calls home, reading and listening to music. He said that he and Expedition 13 Commander Pavel Vinogradov, RV3BS, exercise approximately two and a half hours daily to counteract the effects of the weightless environment on the human body.

ARISS-Japan mentor Satoshi Yasuda, 7M3TJZ, said some 240 people were on hand for the contact, which received media attention from four television stations -- including national network NHK -- and five newspapers.

<http://www.rac.ca/ariss> is an international educational outreach, with US participation by ARRL, AMSA and NASA.

## Words from the President

In the last issue I discussed the need to inventory your gear and leave a copy for your survivors in the event that you become a Silent Key (SK). This terminology will probably be lost on the newcomers to amateur radio. What is a key? Is it an object used to unlock something? How can a key, whatever that is, become silent?

All I hear from those interested in obtaining an amateur radio license is that they hope that the FCC drops the code requirement. Learning to send and receive Morse code is a terrific challenge to many. In the old days, code was sent with a "key". Today, code can still be sent with a key but, in many cases, code is sent with a computer keyboard. I enjoy using the electronic keyer built into my transceiver and iambic paddle but I prefer using a software program with my computer keyboard to send flawless CW. It's impossible to have a sloppy "fist" (your keying style) with computer generated CW. I was so sloppy in Jersey one night that I threw down the earphones and took a long break. I had no brain-hand coordination whatsoever. Yet, when I went to the keyboard, I could send at 40 words a minute without missing a character.

This computer age CW is wonderful but there is a drawback. Can I copy 40 words a minute? Nope! Call letters and RST reports can be copied fairly easily; however, if a station from the Ukraine sends his QTH at 40 words a minute, I quickly look up his call on QRZ.com to find out where he lives! Therefore, if I don't want a guy coming back to me at 40, I send at 25-30 wpm.

Now, when I "check out" of this world, will I be still a SK? Of course, but it would now mean Silent Keyboard!

## 2006 SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST: GAME ON FOR OCTOBER 7-8

From ARES E-Letter Aug 16,2006  
Rick Palm, K1CE, Editor

(Editors Note: This article appeared in the August Mich-A-CON newsletter and is being repeated because the club will be participating in the SET Exercise on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006)

The 2006 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test is scheduled for October 7-8. ECs are planning an event to include all radio amateurs, especially ARES, RACES and NTS members. Served agencies will also participate, of course. Whether you're a new licensee or a veteran, the SET is a good opportunity to learn or practice skills in traffic handling, net operation and emergency communications. The SET is a demonstration of Amateur Radio's capabilities and readiness.

Background is presented in the article, "2005 Simulated Emergency Test Results," July 2006, QST, pp. 97-99. Guidelines and specific SET reporting forms will be posted on the ARRL Web page at <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/forms>. Although October 7-8 is the SET weekend, the exercise may be conducted any time between September 1 and November 30. Check with your local EC for the exact date in your area.

The ARRL is an affiliate of Citizen Corps, an initiative within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to enhance public awareness and safety. Your SET may involve the local representatives of Citizen Corps, its many affiliates, and the Citizen Emergency Response Team. For details on these programs, visit <http://www.citizencorps.gov> and <http://www.citizencorps.gov/programs/cert.shtm>

ARRL's longstanding relationships with several served agencies will be tested, including the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, the National Weather Service, the National Communications System, the Association of Public Safety Officers - International as well as Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams (REACT), and the Civil Air Patrol. Related MOUs may be found at <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/mou/>. -- Steve Ewald, WV1X, ARRLHQ



## MICH-A-CON to Participate in SET Operations

by Steve Skauge KD8CCP

with an email from Marty Mendelson N8MG

Dennis, K8SWX announced at the September monthly meeting that our club will be participating in the SET Operations scheduled for October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Dennis noted that this is our first year to be in this exercise and will be based on an escalating power outage simulation. The article below outlines the procedures and goals for the drill. The club will use the 145.850. Dennis, K8SWX noted that the simulated power outage will mean we should use simplex and most people will operate out of our home base during the test. Further plan details will be forwarded to everyone as they become available. Dennis also added that if anyone does not know how to put their radio in simplex for this drill to please contact him for help.

<http://www.kd8ait.org/>. Dennis Beurjey, K8SWX (906)771-1996. [dbeurjey@msn.com](mailto:dbeurjey@msn.com).

This is going out to all Michigan Section ARES/RACES/ARPC Staff for some clarification on SET Operations to be held October 7.

First of all the SEOC will be active from 10 AM to 2 PM October 7. Your times can vary as much as you wish from this to suit the schedules of your people or operations. Just keep in mind the operations at the SEOC will be from 10 AM to 2 PM. Frequencies for usage will be 3.932 (3.663 CW - QMN), 7.232 (7.068 CW - QMN), 146.52 and 145.76 (Packet – **WC8EOC or WC8EOC-3**).

Scenario once again is a Statewide Blackout mirroring what some of us saw a little over two years ago in August of 2004. The first hour of operations will be with the advantage of using the local repeaters for communications. After one hour, all repeaters will simulate failure due to failure of backup power supplies such as Battery Backup, Diesel and gasoline and propane generators. The only generators that might not fail would be natural gas fueled generators which so long as the valves stayed open would run until the pipeline was exhausted. However for this test/exercise ALL forms of repeaters will fail for a minimum period of 4 hours of operation for this exercise. After 4 continuous hours of life without repeaters you can simulate a partial restoration of electrical services to key county components and infrastructure (you get to resume repeater usage).

All counties are encouraged to participate at some level. As always the rules laid down by the ARRL allow you to count other events as your SET for the year. We would still like to see each county participate at some level even if it is only one station.

Goals to be attained:

Pass one message back and forth (one each way – TO and FROM) between your county and the neighboring county via simplex. This message can be very simple. EXAMPLE; 1 R W8??? 14 Somewhere, MI October 7 My County, MI Exercise Exercise Exercise X Our County is currently active and available during Blackout event Joe EC Our County, MI (You of course can be as creative as you wish and go well above and beyond this if you wish.)

Pass one message to your DEC from each county in the District.

Each District pass one message to the SEOC. (DEC's this message can originate with you or you can delegate this to one or two counties in your jurisdiction)

Individual Counties who also have HF capabilities can also attempt to contact the SEOC via any of the above mentioned methods (HF, VHF or Packet). In this way you get some idea of propagation from your respective EOC's for that date. Remember that there is a 4 hour window to play with here. Obviously this is not a contest and the simple fact that 83 counties all trying at once to get into the SEOC would create havoc should be considered. As with anything of this magnitude, order and listening before hand can alleviate some of the chaos.

Utilize whatever means you have at your disposal to get the message thru to it's final destination. As soon as I know what the NTS schedule is for the day and frequencies, I or John WB8RCR will publish them.

DEC's designate one county pre-event to generate a message for needed Mutual Assistance. This can also fulfill the previous item of DEC's sending a message to the SEOC.

Messages should also be sent at the DEC's and/or the EC's discretion to the SM and STM indicating your participation

That should be simple enough and allows each and everyone in the state to have enough time to attain the goals set forth.

Purpose:

To test simplex, packet and/or HF communications within each county (intra-county communications) and determine what holes or gaps need to be addressed for future operations

(Continued next page...)

To test simplex, packet or HF communications between each neighboring county (intra-district communications) and determine what holes or gaps need to be addressed for future operations

· To test simplex, packet or HF communications between districts (inter-district communications) and determine what holes or gaps need to be addressed for future operations

· To test simplex, packet or HF communications within the state (intra-state communications) and determine what holes or gaps need to be addressed for future operations

On another note, ALL EC's should with this coming Reporting Cycle September 1 – 5, 2006 (for August 2006 time frame) report in the comments section your intentions for the SET. Make sure that your DEC gets a copy of this report so that they can plan accordingly.

Michigan has for many years led the way in the Annual SET reporting and participation. Let's blow the rest of the Sections out of the water this year. Remember that you have until the end of the year to report your participation to ARRL HQ. However, I suggest that all take the time immediately after the exercise to file the report so that it does not get lost in the shuffle. (Report Format can be found on the ARRL.org website and doing a search on 'SET'.)

As always, If there are any issues or questions, please contact me as soon as possible.

Marty Mendelson, N8MG

## Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the September 12, 2006 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Martin, W8JWN, at 6:34 PM.

### Secretary Report:

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

### Treasurer Report:

Checking:	\$122.26
Repeater savings:	\$1,160.85
Regular Savings:	\$1,601.62
Petty cash:	\$25.63

### Repeater Report:

Lee, N8LT, reported that the packet gear still had to be moved from the Metropolitan site. We don't need to waste electricity each month.

### Old Business:

ARES:

Again, Tom, W8JWN, requested that ARES members return completed forms to him as soon as

possible.

Dennis, K8SWX, has the magnetic signs and some members that were at the picnic received them.

Dennis reported that Robert Reed has stepped down as District Emergency Coordinator. Jason, W9JTL, will be the entire U.P. E.C. Dennis has decided to be the E.C for Florence County. There was no argument from the group.

There will be a Simulated Emergency exercise on October 7<sup>th</sup>. The scenario is that there will be a complete power outage. Also, the repeater emergency power will be out. We will use 145.85 simplex, since the repeater will not be on the air, to manage traffic.

Tom discussed his test of the Honda 3800SX generator. There was no hash. The generator worked well. Steve, KD8CCP, presented a bid of \$1,499 for the complete generator from Roconni Hardware. Tom will present it to the Dickinson Co. Sheriff's Department's Emergency Services Coordinator.

### New Business:

Randy, KB9ZES, suggested that a sign with our repeater frequencies be posted at the Iron Mountain city limits. Steve, KD8CCP, will investigate.

Tom, W8JWN, informed the members that George Toppe's widow donated an antenna rotor to the club. We now have a decent rotor for Field Day. A thank you card was sent.

Tom congratulated Steve, KD8CCP, on a nice newsletter.

Randy, KB9ZES, informed the club that Shirt Tales will print our logo on shirts and jackets purchased anywhere. There must be a minimum of six to get our special rate.

The club patches are at Dennis' QTH.

Randy donated a 6' ladder to the club for Field Day. Joe, KD8DJK, suggested that our transceiver loaner program be called "Share A Radio Experience" program. New hams will be able to use a 2 meter rig until they get their own. Motion approved.

Randy informed the group that September 16<sup>th</sup> was National Amateur Radio Day.

September 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 10 to 5, at the old Groveland Mine site, will be a rocket launch by the KHS rocket club.

### Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Submitted by: Tom Martin

### Attendees:

Lee Michaud, N8LT  
Joe Schutte, KD8DJK  
Ed Armbrust, KD8DJO  
Burt Armbrust, WB8EBS  
Dennis Beurjey, K8SWX (Treasurer)  
Bill Wade, AI4BF (guest)  
Skip Caswell, KE9L  
Randy Zandt, KB9ZES  
Tom Martin, W8JWN (President)  
Steve Skauge, KD8CCP  
Gary Schafer, K4FMX (guest)



This Months "Newsletter"  
Brought To You By the Letter "C"

Make sure your speakers are on  
and **click the box.**

From the Chuck Adams, K7QO Morse Code Course.  
Practice the Code today!

### ARRL Organization Explained

Steve Skauge KD8CCP with info From  
Dan KB6NU Mi Affiliated Club Coordinator

Have you checked out the New Michigan Section Web Page Yet? <http://www.arrl-mi.org/>. This new page is a great resource but I just had to ask.... what is a Section? Dan KB6BU, Mi Affiliated Club Coordinator sent me over the following explanation:

As for the Michigan section, this refers to how the Field Organization of the ARRL is set up. Here's a bit from the ARRL website <http://www.arrl.org/divisions/>

ARRL's structure divides the United States into 15 ARRL Divisions. Every three years the ARRL full members in each of these Divisions elect a Director and a Vice Director to represent them on the League's Board of Directors. The Board determines the policies of the League, which are carried out by the Headquarters staff. A Director's function is principally policymaking at the highest level. Each division's Director and Vice Director represent their Division on ARRL policy matters. If you have a question or comment about League policies, contact your representatives at the addresses shown below.

The 15 Divisions of the League are arranged into 71 administrative Sections, each headed by an elected Section Manager (SM). (Many sections consist of entire states; some states have more than one section.) Your Section Manager is the person to contact when you have news about your activities, or those of your radio club."

Michigan is part of the Great Lakes Division, which is comprised of the Michigan, Ohio, and Kentucky sections. In terms of the number of hams, Michigan is actually the second largest section in the ARRL, behind only Ohio.

If you have any other questions, please feel free to ask.

73, Dan KB6NU

### Post Items to the Michigan Section Web Site:

From Dan KB6NU Mi Affiliated Club Coordinator

Dan, KB6NU sent me a note inviting us to post events and information on the new Michigan Section Web Page. Dan noted that you need to create an account and then to add items follow the directions here:

1. Go to <http://www.arrl-mi.org>
2. Log in.
3. Click on "create content."
4. Click on "story."
5. Enter the text of the notice, including a link if possible.

### QCWA CLUB

submitted by Paul KB0P and Jim Callow K8IR

Dave Arnold, W8DXX is trying to determine the interest in forming a chapter of the Quarter Century Wireless Association in the Northeast Wisconsin-Southern Upper Peninsula area. Currently the closest chapters are headquartered in St. Ignace, Michigan and Watertown and Kenosha Wisconsin.

The Quarter Century Wireless Association is open to all amateurs who were first licensed at least 25 years ago. I am sure many of your members qualify, and some are probably already members. If anyone would be interested in joining an area chapter please contact David Arnold, W8DXX at 1801 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Menominee, Mi 49858. [djarnold63@AOL.com](mailto:djarnold63@AOL.com)

### SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> 2006

Submitted by Matt Zika, KD8EFY Warning Coordination Meteorologist, National Weather Service, Marquette, Mi.

Matt Zika, KD8EFY wanted to make sure that we all know about the upcoming Skywarn Recognition Day. Skywarn Recognition Day started in 1999 and has been held every year since! This years event will be on Friday December 1<sup>st</sup> 2006 starting at 7PM EST and runs until 7PM EST Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Matt noted that twenty-four hour coverage may be a lot to ask but he is looking for coverage during the evening of the 1<sup>st</sup> and the daylight hours of the 2<sup>nd</sup>. If anyone is interested please contact Matt. Matt noted that the number of contacts made from the Marquette NWS Office has risen significantly over the last couple of years. Last year contact was made with 29 States and 39 NWS Offices (out of a possible 120+) across the Country.

(Continued next page...)

Below is some additional information:

**\*2006 SKYWARN Recognition Day \*\*\***

**\*1. Purpose:** SKYWARN Recognition Day serves to celebrate the contributions to public safety made by amateur radio operators during threatening weather.

**\*2. Object:** For all amateur stations to exchange QSO information with as many National Weather Service Stations as possible on \*80\*, \*40\*, \*20\*, \*15\*, \*10\*, 6, and \*2\* meter bands plus the \*70\* centimeter band. Contacts via repeaters are permitted.

**\*2. Date:** NWS stations will operate Saturday, December 2, 2006, from 0000 - 2400 UTC.

**\*3. Exchange:** Call sign, signal report, QTH, and a one or two word description of the weather occurring at your site ("sunny", "partly cloudy", "windy", etc.).

**\*4. Modes:** NWS stations will work various modes but the NWS Office in Marquette will use primarily Phone and CW.

\*\*

**\*5. Additional Event Information:** As the event draws closer, the National Weather Service will provide event information via the internet <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/hamradio>

**\*6. Contact Information:** Questions concerning this event can be directed to Matt Zika, KD8EFY Warning Coordination Meteorologist, National Weather Service Marquette, [matthew.zika@noaa.gov](mailto:matthew.zika@noaa.gov) Or call 906 475-5782 ext 726

## NEW WEBSITE TO FIND REPEATERS

From an email by Lysle Elder, WA8LE, Editor DCARS

New helpful repeater guide for ham operators in the works.

Due to many questions over the years regarding repeaters for 2 meters and other bands, including FM repeaters, my Son-in-law, Jim, AB9IF came up with an idea that would be helpful to all ham radio operators. Jim started a web site for all ham radio users called:

[www.usrepeaters.com](http://www.usrepeaters.com)

Please add this to you favorites list so you can use this excellent Web site. This is at the present time still in the introduction stages And is constantly being upgraded and added to daily.

Included will be all ham radio, links, web sites, mapping programs, APRs, grid squares, almost anything related to locating tower sights etc.

Jim's web site is sponsored by Google, and advertisers can add their sites also.

Click on your State, City and find all the repeaters for whatever band You are using.

Many additions are in the works.

If you have any information, questions, additions you would like to add to this

Web site, please inform the administrator. (Contact) on [www.usrepeaters.com](http://www.usrepeaters.com)

Mich-A-Con RF is published by the Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club of Iron Mountain. Items for Mich-A-Con RF should be in the editors hands by club meeting day (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month) to be included in that month's edition. Please consider writing and article related to Amateur Radio to share with your fellow members. Send the article in plain text and attach any photos, etc., do not worry about the format, that's the editor's job.

Send to: [sjsace@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sjsace@sbcglobal.net)  
(906) 779-5720

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## CLUB EQUIPMENT LIST

TOM MARTIN W8JWN has custody of the following club equipment:

1. Gin pole for Rohn tower sections with 100 feet of rope.
2. Small TV type rotor and control.
3. Dipole antennas for 80,40,20,15 and 10 meters with 50 feet of RG58 coax.
4. Various lengths of string for antennas (not very heavy).
5. RG8X with double shield (100 ft).
6. 3/16 Single Braid Dacron rope (200 ft).
7. 20 meter open stub (nulls 40 and 15 meters).
8. 40 meter shorted stub (nulls 20 and 10 meters).
9. 40 meter shorted stub (nulls 15 meters).
10. 6 PL259 silver connectors.
11. 4 T-adapters for stubs.
12. 4 UG-176 silver sleeves.
13. 3 right-angle connectors.
14. Hygain tri-band beam antenna.
15. G5RV antenna.
16. Club banner.

MIKE BRAY K8DDB has custody of the following club equipment:

17. 40 foot light tower.
18. Lafayette 80 - 10 meter tube type VFO #99-2501 with operating manual.
19. J-38 Morse code straight key.
20. Lambda model LT-2095A-1583 power supply 0 to +-32VDC, 2 amp (rack mount).
21. Multi-meter ME-26D/U (old military type) by Sentinel Electronics, Inc.
22. Power supply (partially built - home brew).
23. Duplexer (rack mount - home brew) TX and RX cans- possibly 440 MHz.



Mich-A-Con ARC Activities for October 2006						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 UPSN	2	3	4	5 ARES	6	7 SET EXERCISE
8 UPSN	9	10 MEETING	11	12 ARES	13	14
15 UPSN	16	17	18	19 ARES	20	21 BREAKFAST
22 UPSN	22	23	24	25 ARES	26	27
28 UPSN	23	30	31			

### CLUB ACTIVITIES

The Upper Peninsula 2-meter Social Net (UPSN) is conducted every Sunday at 7:00 PM Central Time on the 146.850 repeater. This is to replace the Tuesday Night Net which did not have much activity. Dennis, K8SWX, will facilitate the link from our repeater to the other participating stations via EchoLink.

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 6:30 PM in the Grace United Methodist Church, (upstairs in the room next to the sanctuary), 721 Norway Street in Norway, Michigan. Visitors and prospective members are always welcome!

Our Saturday Morning Breakfast is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month at 9:00 AM 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?

October 7<sup>th</sup> 2006 MICH-A-CON will participate in a SET Exercise. The exercise will simulate a power outage and use only simplex operation. See details in this newsletter.

### Exam Schedule

City: Iron Mountain  
 Location: Dickinson County Library  
 Room: Conference Room  
 Time: 9:30 AM Central Time  
 Contact: Mark Lewis, N8UKD  
 Telephone: (906) 774-6598

Exam Date: Nov 4, 2006  
 Exam Date: Feb 3, 2007  
 Exam Date: May 5, 2007

Examinees should bring 2 pencils, a pen for the official paperwork, the originals AND copies of any previous credit that you have earned (Certificates of Successful Completion or current license), 1 photo ID (usually a drivers license) and 1 other ID (usually a birth certificate or SS card), a calculator if needed (make sure your memories are cleaned out), and the test fee. (2006 fee is \$14).

### REPEATERS

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

Identifier: WA8FXQ/R IMT

Output	Offset	PI Tone
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146.850 MHz	Minus	----
444.850 MHz	Plus	100

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 use only.

# 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 6:30 PM in the Grace United Methodist Church (upstairs in the room next to the sanctuary), 721 Norway Street in Norway, Michigan. Visitors and prospective members are always welcome!

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

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

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

## Club Officers:

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

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

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

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

## Reminders:

Club dues for the year 2006 were payable on January 1<sup>st</sup>. 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 October is on Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the Grace United Methodist Church, 721 Norway Street Norway Michigan. (Upstairs in the room next to the sanctuary.)

