

# Mich-A-Con RF

Iron Mountain, Michigan

September 2008

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Visit the ARRL's Web site:

<http://www.arrl.org>

The URL for the Mich-A-Con ARC Web Site is:

<http://www.qsl.net.ka1ddb/>

## Words from the President:

Tom, W8JWM

The leaves are starting to turn here on "B" Street in Iron Mountain. Fall officially arrived on Monday. With fall comes another season of disgusting Lion football. They are 0-3, as I type this, and any chance of a successful season is probably over. Yet, my Cubbies are in the post-season and my Wings will soon start their season to defend the "Cup".

Fall is also a time for, hopefully, better radio propagation. The solar flux has been poor for a long time. Summer static has covered weak signals on 40 and 80 meters. And, of course, there have been very little 10, 12, and 15-meter propagation. Hopefully, this winter will be the beginning of something better for us Dxers.

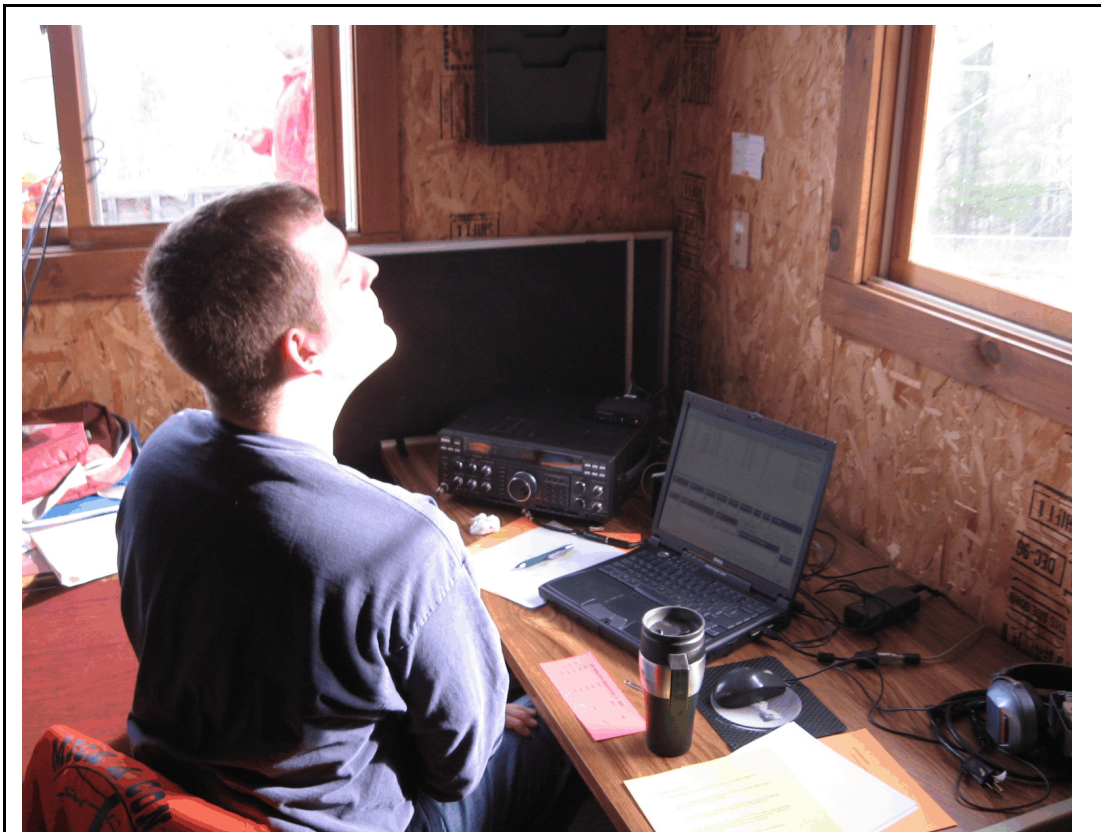
I have been off the air since May 17<sup>th</sup>. With the loss of my tower and beams, I only operated during Field Day. Finally, I can see the light at the end of the tunnel. The tower has been repaired and is lying in the yard ready to be lifted into place. I have the Fluid Motion 4 element SteppIR beam resting in the garage ready to assemble. It looks like my original target date (November 1<sup>st</sup>) for getting back on

the air is ahead of schedule. If the nice weather remains for the next few weeks, if the crane and bucket truck can be here at the same time, and I can figure out 16 color coded wires from the controller to the connection box on the SteppIR, everything will be up and ready to work some rare DX.

Now, that we have a ham at the VA Hospital, Rob Filipczak (KL2MK), our interest in working with the administration at the hospital to form a club station has been rekindled. I met with Rob last week and he gave me some important advice in pursuing this goal.

Our club will be recognized on a brick at the new Veterans Park. We donated \$50 to the park fund drive.

Operators are needed for our K8V Veterans Day special event on Pine Mountain from November 8<sup>th</sup>-November 11<sup>th</sup>. Permission has been granted to use the Kiwanis Ski Club's facility.



Nate checks for visitors while operating during the Veterans Day Special Event 2007

## **Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the September 9, 2008 Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Martin, W8JWN, at 7:00 p.m.

### **Secretary Report**

The minutes of the August 12<sup>th</sup> meeting were read and approved.

### **Treasurer Report**

No report – Treasurer absent.

### **Repeater Report**

Nothing has been done with the new building yet.

### **ARES**

No report.

### **Old Business**

#### **Pine Mountain Veterans Memorial Park –**

A \$50 check was delivered to American Legion Post #50 by Tom, W8JWN.

#### **Veterans Day Special Event –**

The special event will run from Saturday, November 8 through Tuesday, November 11. Tom has requested permission from the Kiwanis Club for the use of their building. The November issue of QST will have the announcement. Tom will issue local press releases. The money for food and drinks will come from leftover donations from Field Day.

Radios will be provided by Mike, K8DDB; Scott, KA8TFF; Tom, W8JWN and Art, KD8GLO (psk).

Antennas will be provided by Tom, (A3S Beam & 40 meter dipole); Scott, (Butternut Vertical); Art, (compact antennas for PSK); Club, (80 meter dipole). Tower will be provided by Gary, K4FMX.

Antenna installation will begin on Friday morning, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m.

Nate, KD8GLP and Art, KD8GLO will take photos.

Antennas and stations will be broken down on Wednesday, November 12.

### **New Business**

#### **Club Station –**

Mike, N9NBN, suggested that we try to obtain space for a club station in the Farmer's Insurance building in downtown Iron Mountain. Tom will check.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

### **For The Good Of The Order**

Members discussed their current radio related activities.

Submitted by Mike Bray

### **Attendees**

Mike Bray, K8DDB---Secretary  
Scott Jarmusch, KA8TFF  
Michael Boileau, N9NBN---Vice President  
Art Costa, KD8GLO  
Nate Mieras, KD8GLP  
Tom Martin, W8JWN---President  
Burton Armbrust, WB8EBS  
Gary Schafer, K4FMX

<b>Mich-A-Con ARC Activities for October 2008</b>						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1	2 ARES	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 ARES	10	11
12	13	14 MEETING	15	16 ARES	17	18 Club Breakfast
19	20	21	22	23 ARES	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 ARES	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 Amateur Radio Club meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Dickinson County Library. Visitors and Prospective Members are always welcome!

Our Saturday Morning Breakfast is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month at 9:00 AM at the Holiday Kitchen Restaurant on Stephenson Ave (US-2) in Iron Mountain.

**Club 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 stamped envelope along with your payment.**

## 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.dxinfo.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/>

**Wanted:**  
**YOUR ARTICLES,**  
**IDEAS AND INPUT!**  
**SEND IT IN NOW**  
**TO:**  
[kd8ccp@arrl.net](mailto:kd8ccp@arrl.net)

## V.E. TESTING:

**10/04 Houghton:** 8:30 am eastern time, Room G04 in the basement of Wadsworth Residence Hall at MTU (Michigan Technological University). Free parking is available across Hwy U.S. 41 from this building. Contact Glen at (906) 482-7743 or by email: [wa8qnf@arrl.net](mailto:wa8qnf@arrl.net).

**10/11 Gladstone:** 9:00 am eastern time at the Gladstone Public Library. Testing begins at 9:00 am. Contact Howard W8HSJ at (906) 428-9476 or by email: [w8hsj@dcars.org](mailto:w8hsj@dcars.org)

**10/16 Iron River:** 7:00 pm central time, Iron River Lutheran Church (after Club Meeting)  
Note: Pre-Registration is required, contact Dan Waters, AA9JG, at (906) 265-4240 or email [dmwaters@ironriver.tv](mailto:dmwaters@ironriver.tv)

**11/01 Iron Mountain:** 9:00 am central time, (arrive by 8:30 am) in the Dickinson County Library conference room. Contact Mark J. Lewis N8UKD, (906) 396-5519 , 412 Fairmount St. Kingsford, Mi 49802.

**12/13 Marquette:** 8:30 am eastern time, (arrive by 8:00 am) Marquette County Health Dept. Bld, U.S. 41 just east of the Michigan State Police Post. Contact Rich Schwenke, N8GBA at (906) 249-3837 or [n8gba@chartermi.net](mailto:n8gba@chartermi.net)

Please arrive one-half hour early for test sessions to allow time for application processing. Testing applicants should bring two pieces of I.D. including one photo I.D. Original license and a clear copy of their license if applicable and a completed form 605 will also be needed. (Form 605 will be provided if needed.) Please bring pencils, calculator and the test fee of \$14.00. Please have the correct fee as examiners do not carry change. Please contact the individuals listed to confirm dates, times and locations.

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

Mich-A-Con RF is published by the Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club of Iron Mountain. Send articles to: Steve Skauge  
[KD8CCP@arrl.net](mailto:KD8CCP@arrl.net)

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**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.

With pride, we are announcing the first edition of the Michigan Section's Youth Newsletter.

Please check this URL to download your copy.

<http://arpsc.mi-nts.org/downloads/YRM01.pdf>

Please feel free to distribute to your friends.

73,

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ARRL Michigan Section  
Section Manager: Dale R. Williams, WA8EFK  
[wa8efk@arrl.org](mailto:wa8efk@arrl.org)  
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## **The 2008 ARRL On-Line Auction**

**will open for bidding on October 23rd at 10AM ET.**

**From: The ARRL Website Via Member List Email**

Bidders will be treated to over 100 items to browse through and bid on, including a vast array of *QST* Product Review items, new and pre-owned equipment and other goods and services.

Proceeds from our yearly On-Line Auction benefit ARRL education programs including activities to license new hams, strengthen Amateur Radio's emergency service training, offer continuing technical and operating education, as well as creating instructional materials.

This event would not be possible without the generosity of our donors. Our sincere thanks to all who donated items for this year's auction and a special mention to the two organizations below who have chosen the highest level of participation as 2008 ARRL On-Line Auction Golden Gavel Sponsors.

**Golden Gavel Sponsor - Icom America, Inc. donates the IC-7000**

**Golden Gavel Sponsor - R4 Systems, Inc. donates the PROTEUS DESIGN SUITE from Labcenter**

## **Department of Homeland Security Interoperability Manual, New National Emergency Communications Plan.**

From:

*The ARES E-Letter*

September 26, 2008

Rick Palm, K1CE, Editor

From the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Emergency Communications (OEC)-- "The National Interoperability Field Operations Guide (NIFOG) is a collection of

technical reference material for radio technicians responsible for radios that will be used in disaster response applications. The NIFOG includes information from the National Interoperability Frequency Guide (NIFG), the instructions for use of the NIFG, and other reference material; formatted as a pocket-sized guide for radio technicians to carry with them. If you are not familiar with interoperability and mutual aid communications, start with the "How to Use the National Interoperability Field Operations Guide" section. We encourage you to program as many of these interoperability channels in your radios as possible. Even if geographic restrictions on some channels preclude their use in your home area, you may have the opportunity to help in a distant state where the restrictions do not apply. Maximize your flexibility." For a copy of the manual, see:

<http://www.npstc.org/documents/NIFOG%20v1.2%204-14-2008.pdf>

Thanks, Mark Conklin, N7XYO, Assistant SEC, Oklahoma DHS has also recently released the National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) to address gaps and determine solutions so that emergency response personnel at all levels of government and across all disciplines can communicate as needed, on demand, and as authorized.

The NECP is the nation's first strategic plan to improve emergency response communications, and complements overarching homeland security and emergency communications legislation, strategies and initiatives. More on the National Emergency Communications Plan:

[http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr\\_1217534334567.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1217534334567.shtm)

and

[http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr\\_1217529182375.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1217529182375.shtm).

Thanks --

Les Rayburn, N1LF, Shelby County, Alabama EC

## **ARRL WELCOMES USTTI STUDENTS**

from:

The ARRL Letter  
Vol. 27, No. 37  
September 19, 2008

Next month, the ARRL will welcome students from various countries from all over the world who want to learn how to administer and regulate Amateur Radio programs in their home countries. This course, offered by the United States Telecommunications Training Institute (USTTI) <http://ustti.org/> will help participants create, administer and foster an Amateur Radio Service in their countries.

Designed for those in developing countries who regulate and manage their country's Amateur Radio Service, this course will help participants learn just who radio amateurs are. ARRL staff instructors will help course participants discover the ever-expanding universe of Amateur Radio communication. They will explain why Amateur Radio operators – upwards of three



million individuals in virtually every country of the world -- have earned licenses to operate stations in the Service and why they are recognized, both by their governments and internationally, as a valuable voluntary telecommunications resource. Course participants will also discover how a telecommunications administration can bring the benefits of a healthy Amateur Service to its nation.

Now in its 26th year, USTTI is a nonprofit venture involving leading US-based communications and information technology corporations and leaders of the federal government cooperating to provide tuition-free management, policy and technical training for talented professionals from the developing world. This is the 24th year the ARRL has participated in the program.

### ARRL PRESENTS NEW MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

from:

The ARRL Letter  
Vol. 27, No. 36  
September 12, 2008

With just a mouse click or two, ARRL members can now access the online QST magazine archive <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/qqnsearch.html>

This new benefit -- a service of the ARRL Technical Information Service(TIS) <http://www.arrl.org/tis> -- provides PDF copies of all QST articles from December 1915 through December 2004, enabling members to view and print their favorite article, project and more. For many years, the TIS has provided members with assistance researching ARRL periodicals and publications, as well as providing members and non-members with article reprints for a small fee. Access to the new online digital QST archive is free for ARRL members, and is for their personal use only -- material in the archive may not be freely distributed or copied.

"Having access to every issue of QST through 2004 is absolutely incredible!" said ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI. "The best of the best of QST from every era is now at the fingertips of every ARRL member with a keyboard and an Internet connection. Members can research articles on any subject that interests them, or just browse the past issues. This will be a popular membership benefit that will be of special value to new and long-time hams alike. This valuable content will help radio amateurs who use QST as a technical resource -- for projects, equipment 'hints and kinks' -- and for other research contributing to the advancement of the radio art. We know many hams will simply enjoy perusing these pages of history, too."

The ARRL Periodicals Archive and Search lists every article for QST from 1915 to the present, QEX from 1981 to the present, Ham Radio from 1968 to 1990 and NCJ from 1973 to the present (please note that beginning in 1998, each issue of QEX covers two months). Only ARRL members will be able to download and print copies of the QST articles.

QST magazine is the official journal of ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. An interest in Amateur Radio is the only essential qualification of membership. ARRL membership is \$39 per year in the US. For a complete list of membership benefits and dues, please visit the ARRL Membership Web page <http://www.arrl.org/join>.

# MICH-A-CON RF

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

## Club Meetings:

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

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

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

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

## Club Officers:

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

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

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

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

## Reminders:

Club dues for the year 2008 were payable on January 1<sup>st</sup>. 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 Beurjev, K8SWX, at the address listed on the form. Thank-you for supporting your club!

The monthly meeting for Oct is on Tuesday the 14th at 7:00 PM in Dickinson County Library.

