

# Mich-A-Con RF

Iron Mountain, Michigan

October 29, 2013

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## **Mich-A-Con RF newsletter editor retires.**

**By: Steve Skauge KD8CCP, editor**

I have decided to give up the Mich-A-Con RF newsletter editing and publishing duties.

For many years now I have had the privilege and honor of publishing the Mich-A-Con RF newsletter. I decided it is time to “retire” from this duty with my last newsletter being December 2013. The job is challenging but rewarding and even educational so I encourage anyone reading this to consider taking the job, yes it can even be fun!

I remember being very nervous for my first undertaking of doing a newsletter; was I going to be able to put together enough material every month to make the newsletter interesting and informative? I was lucky Mike Bray K8DDB, was more than willing to sit down with me and show me how he did the newsletter. Mike is offering his assistance again to anyone that wants to pick up the editors job.

The most interesting thing about doing the newsletter is that it makes you keep current on a lot of events happening in ham radio. I subscribe to QST and I am a member of ARRL so I have vast resources of national news. I have always

tried to mix national and regional news items in with our own local stories. I think it should be pointed out that Tom, W8JWN our club President writes an article (*Words from the President*) every month! Tom shares his perspective and experiences in the amateur radio world enticing everyone to do more with the hobby.

I hope that in my years of publishing and editing *your* newsletter I have given you, the reader a great perspective on best hobby in the world: Amateur Radio!

### **Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club Minutes of October 8th, 2013 Meeting**

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

#### **Secretary Report**

Minutes of the September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting were read and approved.

#### **Treasurer Report**

Balances as of October 1, 2013:

Checking - \$9.34

Regular Savings - \$ 2,220.73 of which \$ 1,851.15 is in the Trailer Fund.

Repeater Savings - \$ 872.22

Petty Cash - \$ 16.00

#### **Repeater Report**

Seems to be working fine lately. Burt has a power supply for the venting system.

#### **Old Business**

Nothing new on the Fox Hunt activity.

Nothing new on a better antenna for the repeater.

Packet frequency, 145.01, now works.

The meeting change to the second Wednesday of the month vote will be at the December meeting and if passed will take effect in January per the constitution to give time to announce the change.

January meeting would be at 7:00 on Wednesday January 8.

The generator has been serviced. Thanks Paul and Schultz Equipment.

Delinquent members were contacted to see if they want to rejoin the club One reply. Meeting night conflict.

Veterans Day November 9-11<sup>th</sup>. Schedule: Saturday and Sunday 9-4; Monday 8-5

## **New Business**

*Election of officers at the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. To tempt some other people to run, Burt (WB8EBS) made the motion, "That officers not pay club dues for the 2014-2015 year." Scott (KA8TFF) seconded the motion. It carried 6-1.*

President Martin informed the club that Steve (KD8CCP) would no longer be doing the newsletter after December. Mike Bray offered to help a new editor get started. Steve was thanked for his many years of service to the club.

It is final! There will be no Thursday 2 meter ARES nets. We don't have a net control station, or EC for the county. There was discussion about having 10 meter nets.

Burt brought in some parts, speakers, cables, etc. to sell to the highest bidder. Tom brought in two 1970s vintage club jackets donated by Jackie (W9AYX). The club made \$20 on the donations.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

## **For the Good of the Order**

Attendees reported on their recent activities.

Submitted by Tom Martin

## **Attendees**

Tom Martin, W8JWN - President  
Scott Jarmusch, KA8TFF - Vice President  
Burton Armbrust Sr., WB8EBS - Treasurer  
Joe Ferris, KC9TQR  
Jim Riverside, K8ABS  
Gary Schafer, K4FMX  
Scott Polatowski, KC9ZBC and his son Shelby  
Chris Michaud, KD8UMN  
Red Maxwell, KC9KWS  
Kyle Dudenas, a visitor

## **Dues for Officers**

via email from:

**Tom**

In the minutes there was a vote to have officers not pay dues for one year. This vote violated the Club Constitution: Article V Section 1-"Dues for all classes of membership shall be set and assessed at the Annual Meeting." Could you highlight that part of the minutes and add that because of the violation this will be discussed at the November meeting.

Tom Martin, W8JWN - President

## **Republic Repeater**

via email from:

**Paul Schultz KD8KUF**

Oct 2

I talked with Paul, KB0P last night on the 85. He asked to put the word out that the Republic repeater is back up and running on 146.82, PL tone 100, 50 watts and is linked to Marquette.

Paul, KD8KUF

## **IARU Region 2 Publishes New Band Plan**

from:

**ARRL Letter October 31, 2013**

10/29/2013

International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 (the Americas) has published a revised IARU Region 2 Band Plan for all allocations from 137 kHz to 250 GHz, effective September 27, 2013. The member-societies of IARU Region 2 adopted the new plan during their triennial General Assembly in Cancun, Mexico, in late September. Delegates from 18 national Amateur Radio associations attended. Representing the ARRL were President Kay Craigie, N3KN, as the voting delegate; First Vice President Rick Roderick, K5UR; Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, and Technical Relations Specialist Jonathan Siverling, WB3ERA.

“For the first time in Region 2, band plans for the VHF, UHF, and microwave bands were adopted to guide development of these bands,” Sumner said. “HF band plans were reviewed with the objective of improving terminology and aligning them more closely with those of the other regions, particularly Region 1 (Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and the former



Soviet Union).” The revised document designates a new segment for the Amateur-Satellite Service from 144.000 to 144.025 MHz.

As it states in its introduction, “The IARU Region 2 has established this band plan as the way to better organize the use of our bands efficiently. To the extent possible, this band plan is harmonized with those of the other regions. It is suggested that member-societies, in coordination with the authorities, incorporate it in their regulations and promote it widely with their radio amateur communities.”

For the first time the band plan includes definitions “to organize the concepts used in the band plan, as well as the proposed use of spectrum for the bands between 6 meters and 1 millimeter,” says IARU R2 News Editor Joaquín Solana, XE1R.

The new band plan references near space stations (NSS) in its definitions section. According to the band plan, “Equipment located in temporary Near Space Stations (such as those carried by high-altitude balloons) can transmit carefully on any frequency; exceptions are the segments with ‘exclusive’ usage where ‘NSS’ are not applied. NSS must follow the BW [bandwidth] and mode restrictions of the segment and observe carefully the usual occupation of the band on the related region to avoid harmful interference. For longer missions and NSS crossing international and regional boundaries, extra care must be observed in harmonization of different allocations.”

### **Words from the President**

Tom W8JWN

As I type these ‘Words’, the long awaited Dxpedition to Wake Island has begun. K9W is active on all bands and modes. They will operate until November 15<sup>th</sup>. I worked them on 17 meter CW last night for a new one on that band and mode. Now, to get them on RTTY for #303 on that mode.

This will be a very good month for DX. 5J0R on San Andres and Providencia and XR0YY on Easter Island are already on the air. 3DA0ET in Swaziland will be starting on November 18. XR0ZR will provide a contact with Juan Fernandez beginning on November 8<sup>th</sup>. And, the one I've been waiting for, XZ1J from Myanmar to begin on November 15<sup>th</sup>. I may have to come in from hunting camp for that one. Fortunately, they will operate until the 26<sup>th</sup>.

K8V, not a DX station, will be active from November 9th-11<sup>th</sup>. We will again be operating from the U.P. Veterans Memorial atop Pine Mountain. Setup will begin at 9:00 a.m. Saturday. We will have two stations and be using wire antennas. I hope that we can have a good turnout of operators and antenna erectors for this club project.

Our next meeting on Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, will be our election night. Now is

the chance for members to “change the guard”. Those of us who have been officers for many years, welcome a chance to take a break. New blood is always good for a group. Come, nominate, and vote!

Also, remember that this could be the second to the last newsletter for our club. Steve will be retiring after the December newsletter. If you are interested in becoming the new editor, let us know at the November meeting.

73,

Tom W8JWN

**V.E. TESTING:**

11/2 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).

12/14 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. You must pre-register by Tuesday preceding the test date. Contact Rich Schwenke, N8GBA at 906 249-3837 e-mail: [n8gba@chartermi.net](mailto:n8gba@chartermi.net) or Greg KI8AF 906 225-1594 [ki8af@arrl.net](mailto:ki8af@arrl.net).

?? 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](mailto:wa8qnf@arrl.net) if you have questions. You can now take a Hamexam “Anytime”. Contact Glenn, WA8QNF at (906)482-7743 for details.

10/12 Gladstone: Sponsor: Delta County Amateur Radio Society Time:10:00 AM (Walk-ins welcome) Contact: Dave Palmgren N8DP, (906) 428-2271, [n8dp@dcars.org](mailto: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 Cliff St  
Quinnesec, Mi. 49876**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Call Sign:** \_\_\_\_\_

**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 \_\_\_**

**Annual dues are Payable January 1st.**

**Dues for New Members are Pro-rated.**

**Please remit \$1.67 per month for a Single  
membership or \$2.50 per month for a  
Family membership.**

## Links

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

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

ARRL MICHIGAN:  
<http://www.arrl-mi.org/>

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

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

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

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

Ehamnet.com:  
<http://www.eham.net/>

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

U.P. Skywarn: <http://kcra-mi.net/skywarn/>

### ***Club Activities:***

*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 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 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.***

### **Repeater Specifications;**

***The 146.85 repeater is a GR Master Pro, 40 watt output repeater. The 440 repeater is a GE Master Pro, 80 watt. The repeaters share a Diamond dual band antenna at a tower height of 125 ft.***



## **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:**

Scott Jarmusch KA8TFF  
[s\\_jarmusch@yahoo.com](mailto:s_jarmusch@yahoo.com)

### **Secretary:**

Paul Schultz KD8KUF  
(906) 774-8900  
[pauls@schultzequipment.com](mailto:pauls@schultzequipment.com)

### **Treasurer:**

Burt Armbrust WB8EBS  
(906) 774-8383  
[wb8ebs@yahoo.com](mailto:wb8ebs@yahoo.com)

## **Wanted:**

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

**December will be my last newsletter. Please consider taking on the rewarding and challenging project of publishing the Mich-A-Con RF newsletter. Contact one of the club officers for details!**

**Send them to:**

**[kd8ccp@arri.net](mailto:kd8ccp@arri.net)**

## **Reminders:**

**Club dues for the year 2014 are payable on January 1<sup>st</sup>. 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:  
Tuesday November 12th, 2013. It will be held in the Dickinson County Library at **7:00 PM****