

Mich-A-Con RF

Iron Mountain, Michigan

November 2008

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

2008 VETERANS DAY SPECIAL EVENT A GREAT SUCCESS!

Words from the President

Tom, W8JWN

The 2009 Veterans Day special event is now history. I'm sure that those who participated found the experience to be very enjoyable and memorable. The many on the air comments from veterans was uplifting and heart warming.

As I go through the many QSL and certificate requests, I see many comments from veterans thanking us for the event.



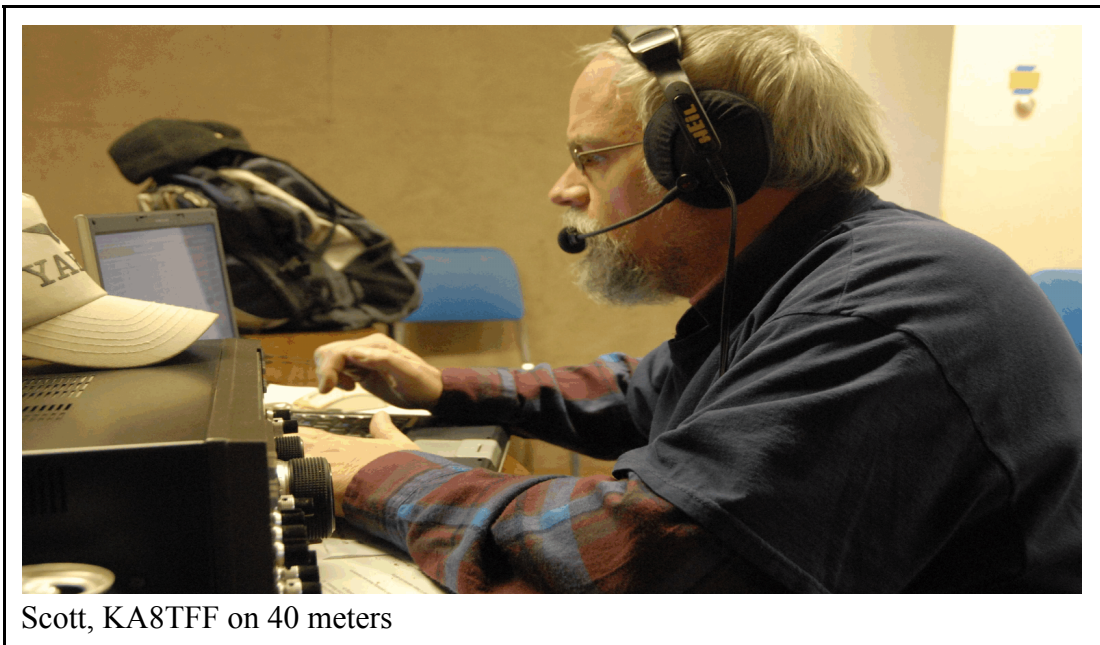
Getting Ready to Raise the Flag!

Media coverage was again very good this year. We had a photo on the front page of the *Borderland Journal* and a photo in the *Florence Mining News*. The only negative was that I was identified as Tom Carlson. Karen's Studio of Niagara took the pictures and submitted them to the papers. She also sent the club a CD with the photos. Thanks Karen.

The second day of the event qrz.com took down our site because of an FCC ruling that only allows one database for 1X1 calls. W5YI is that major database. I moved the K8V info to my call on qrz.com. It looks like that move didn't stop contacts from sending QSL cards and certificate requests. I have over 51 certificate requests so far. My mailbox is loaded everyday!

Again, 80 meters was the poor band for contacts. See the minutes of the last meeting for more details. We worked some excellent DX on 20 meter RTTY: Reunion Island, Saudi Arabia, and South Africa. My A3S was superb on 20. Now, if we can keep it in one direction! The high winds on top of Pine Mountain kept blowing it to a different bearing.

Scott, KA8TFF, again had steady pileups on 40 SSB. Over 800 contacts were made on 40. The majority of QSLs received have been for 40-meters.



Scott, KA8TFF on 40 meters

Burt, WB8EBS, also handled logging duties on 40 and climbed the tower to set the beam in the right direction.

Barry Perron logged and helped set up the 40 meter vertical. Again, thanks to Scott for the FT-1000 and Butternut vertical.

Terry, KB9ZER, logged on 40 meters and delivered pop to the thirsty operators.

Mike Bray, K8DDB, gave out many CW contacts on 15, 20, 20, and 40 meters with only 20 watts. He didn't make as many contacts as last year but he kept at it.

Gary, K4FMX, again loaned the club one of his towers for the event. Thanks, Gary.

The Baker family came through again with donuts and Beth and Scott operated 20 SSB.

Barry and Mike also provided donuts and Burt brought some great Sloppy Joes. We ate BBQ for three days!

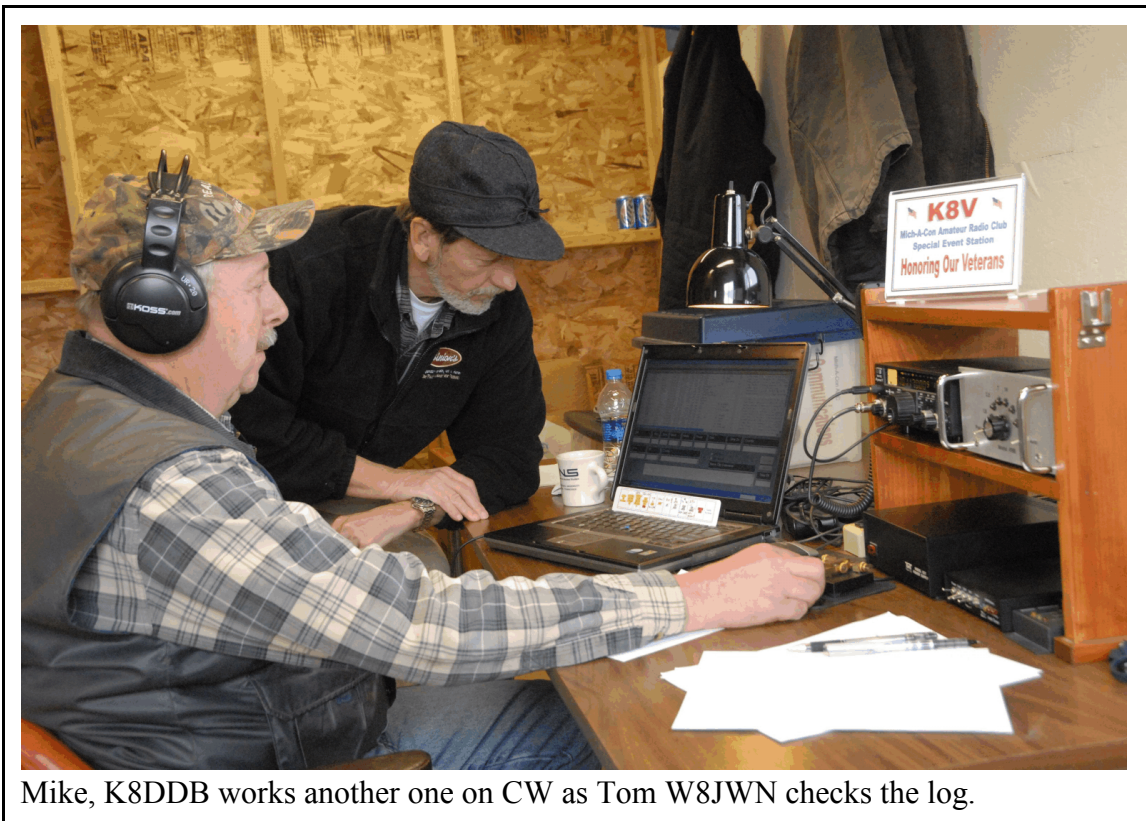
Mike Boileau, N9NBN, erected antennas before work and helped raise the tower.

Art Costa, KD8GLO, brought his PSK rig and portable 20-meter antenna but couldn't make any contacts.

If I forgot anyone, please accept my apology. I am relying on my memory and you all know what happens when you're over 65!

At the monthly meeting held at the K8V site, we decided to hold the Veterans Day event in 2009. We will limit the operation to three days. Since Veterans Day falls so closely before the Michigan deer season, a five-day operation proved to be too much for us Old Timers! Our XYLs will also be a lot happier. HI!

We will have the K8V call again for next year!



Mike, K8DDB works another one on CW as Tom W8JWN checks the log.

Packet goes QRT!

from:

The Standing Wave:

December 2008

Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association of Marquette

Greg, KI8AF Editor

IRON MOUNTAIN AX.25 PACKET GOES DOWN:

The Iron Mountain Group has taken their AX.25 packet radio system out of service, with no plans for putting it back in.

NEGAUNEE PACKET GOES DOWN:

With Iron Mountain gone, Steve, N8MLI is taking his node down in Negaunee. The relaying of packet traffic to points south (via Iron Mountain) was for your convenience. The Nodes there are: N8MLI-7 Node, N8MLI-1 Mailbox, N8MLI-3 Gateway N8MLI-4 IR node: NEGNOD. Thank you Steve, for making this route available to us, and giving us a path out of the Copper Country, through you, and on to Iron Mountain, and down into the Green Bay area, and eventually to the world, in the past. We are sorry to lose this route.

W8FWG-2 SERVICE ENDS:

My own AX.25 packet-data station at Mt. Horace Greeley (W8FWG-2) will also be taken out of service in the near future, (or it may be converted to an APRS node with a beam antenna fixed, and pointed at the Marquette area for the relaying of traffic out of the area)

Marquette's K8LOD-7 Packet Node goes silent:

As of November 11, 2008 HARA's Marquette K8LOD-7 packet node is silent. As reported in the past there are some structural issues with the tower that is utilized for packet operations. Word has been received that this tower will be dismantled in the near future (possible by the time you receive this issue of the newsletter). So the K8LOD-7 has been powered down and the equipment has been removed.

147.315 Calumet Repeater goes EchoLink

from:

The Standing Wave:

December 2008

Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association of Marquette

Greg, KI8AF Editor

For those clubs that have Echolink capability, we now have Echo link on our 147.315 MHz repeater (Calumet). Please try a "connect" to us. Our Node Number is: 405654 and you will find the call sign of KD8JAM there, which will connect to the 147.315 MHz repeater up at Keweenaw.

Marquette: Especially take note: Can you link the Marquette/Munising node to our in times of bad weather, and join us on the Friday night SKYWARN Net at 9 pm EST? Give us a try! Other clubs are invited to do likewise.

Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the November 11, 2008 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Martin, W8JWN, at 7:10 p.m.

Secretary Report

The minutes of the October 14th meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Report

No report – Treasurer absent.

Tom gave a \$100 check to the Kiwanis Ski Club. \$50 for last year and \$50 for this year.

Repeater Report

WE Energies is working on the standby generator at the site. The repeater committee will paint the interior of the building after deer season.

ARES

No report.

Old Business

Veterans Day Special Event –

Over 1100 contacts were made.

The K8V call was removed from the QRZ database during the operation because all 1x1 calls are not in the official W5YI database and the FCC ruled that there can be only one database. Tom transferred the K8V information to his QRZ.com/W8JWN web page.

Tom thanked all for making this year's operation a success.

Mike, K8DDB, will print the certificates.

Tom, W8JWN, will apply for K8V for next year.

Comments and suggestions for next year: The 3 element tribander made a difference. Use a more versatile antenna such as a G5RV to replace the 80 meter dipole. Five days was too long, make it three days next year.

Club Trailer –

Mike, N9NBN, suggested that instead of an enclosed trailer, we consider having an open (boat) trailer with outriggers and a crank up tower. He will make a more detailed presentation at a future meeting.

Field Day 2008 –

We placed 4th out of 16 Michigan stations and 43rd out of 303 total stations in Class 3A.

Question: Are we as a club more concerned about the score than we are about having fun and getting more people to operate? Rule changes for the GOTA station this year eliminated Techs from participating if they participated in last year's Field Day. Some club members thought this was unfair.

New Business

Lee Michaud's Estate –

Dale Michaud would like the club to make a list of equipment that is still at Lee's home. Dale will inventory Lee's amateur related equipment and offer it for sale to the club before selling it to the general public. Dale said that Lee had about \$500 in a separate bank account for the club. Mike, N9NBN, stated that the bank account is for amateur exams given through the W5YI group. Mike will work with Dale to transfer the account to a current member of the exam team.

Election of Officers –

A discussion was held concerning the absence of our current treasurer from 7 of our meetings since our last election. A motion was made by Scott, KB9AVX, and seconded by Scott, KA8TFF, to allow the Vice President to temporarily hold both his and the Treasurer's office until a new Treasurer can be found. The motion was unanimously approved.

Nominations for 2009 officers were as follows: Secretary – Mike Bray (motion by Mike, N9NBN, and seconded by Art, KD8GLO); Vice President – Mike Boileau, N9NBN (motion by Art, KD8GLO, and seconded by Nate, KD8GLP); President – Tom Martin, W8JWN (motion by Scott, KB9AVX, and seconded by Art, KD8GLO). All nominees were elected by unanimous vote.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Submitted by Mike Bray

Attendees

Mike Bray, K8DDB---Secretary
Scott Jarmusch, KA8TFF
Scott Baker, KB9AVX
Art Costa, KD8GLO
Nate Mieras, KD8GLP
Burton Armbrust, WB8EBS
Michael Boileau, N9NBN---Vice President
Tom Martin, W8JWN---President

Mich-A-Con RF is published by the Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club of Iron Mountain.
Send articles to: Steve Skaug
KD8CCP@arrl.net

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V.E. TESTING:

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

12/18 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

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** _____

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.

Canadian Amateurs Receive Limited 500 kHz Privileges:

from:

The ARRL Letter
Vol. 27, No. 46
November 21, 2008

On November 10, Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) announced that Industry Canada, which regulates Amateur Radio in that country, has accepted an RAC proposal for selected Canadian radio amateurs to operate in the vicinity of 500 kHz. The proposal states that RAC would recommend amateurs who would be licensed to operate in the 504-509 kHz band with a maximum power of 20 W ERP and bandwidth up to 1 kHz. Stations operating in this band would be technically operating under Special Developmental Licenses, although they would all be radio amateurs. Distinct call signs would be used and the licenses would be renewable on an annual basis, subject to the amateur demonstrating the research he has carried out. According to the RAC, these amateur operations would support Canada's efforts to place a proposal on the agenda of the 2011 World Radio Conference (WRC-11), which, if adopted, would create an amateur allocation in the 600 meter band. The US, under the auspices of the ARRL's 500 kHz Experimental Station, WD2XSH, is also conducting research in this band. Canada is the eighth country to do experimentation on 55 kHz; along with the US and Canada, Great Britain, Germany, Sweden, Czech Republic, the Netherlands and Romania are also participating. More information on the Canadian proposal will be posted to the RAC Web site as it becomes available.

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/>

Wanted:

**YOUR ARTICLES, IDEAS
AND INPUT! SEND IT IN
NOW TO:
kd8ccp@arrl.net**

Mich-A-Con ARC Activities for December 2008						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 ARES	5	6
7	8	9 Meeting	10	11 ARES	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 ARES	19	20 Club Breakfast
21	22	23	24	25 Christmas	26	27
28	29	30	31 New Years Eve			

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 3rd Saturday of every month at 9:00 AM at the Holiday Kitchen Restaurant on Stephenson Ave (US-2) in Iron Mountain.

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

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

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

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

Reminders:

Club dues for the year 2008 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 Beurjev, K8SWX, at the address listed on the form. Thank-you for supporting your club!

The December Mich-A-Con Meeting will be held on Tues December 9th 2008.

