



MICH-A-CON

Iron Mountain,
Dickinson County, Mich

November 2016

Meeting Reminder: [Second Wednesday of the Month](#)

Which is **November 9, 2016** at 06:30PM at the Dickinson Library, Iron Mountain.

From The President



Although it hasn't felt like fall, with warm temperatures being the rule, most of us are doing chores in preparation for winter: the lawnmower has been winterized and stowed away and the snow blower has been lugged out and made ready. Leaves are falling and raking has begun. One of the problems we encounter,

while raking, is to avoid the many radial wires in the yard for the Butternut HF6 vertical (See photos) I placed them on the ground, several years ago, and waited for them to eventually get covered by many mowings and the passage of time. Some refuse to stay covered, so we have to be careful not to pull any up.



One of our members, Skip (KE9L) knows the value of many radials, I believe he has 120 on each of his verticals that make up his Four Square for 80 meters (See photo). His 40 meter Four Square (See photo), I believe has 120 on each vertical element. I could only count about 80, when I took the photo.



Many were covered by weeds and grass. In order to make these antennas perform, even my little 26' vertical, a lot of radials are needed to make up for ground loss. I am limited by the yard size; Skip has a few acres to play with.

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Skip's Four Squares are almost equal to having a two element full sized beam on 40 and 80 without the cost and maintenance. He would have needed two towers, or one 120' heavy duty tower, and a heavy rotor to turn a 80 meter beam. The 40 beam could be side mounted. We're talking of at least \$25,000-\$30,000 for beams, rotors, and towers. That's a lot of money for working DX. AND,

there is no climbing involved with Four Squares!!!

With the declining Solar Cycle 25, the low bands will be the money bands. 40, 80, and even 30 meters will provide a lot of DX. If you have the room for an antenna, 160 meters might surprise.

I don't want you to get the impression that your inverted Vee, or dipole won't cut the mustard. It can out perform a single vertical. My 40 meter vee at 60' is always equal to better than the HF6.



Those of you with space and trees, put up some wire antennas and work DX.

**CLUB ELECTION AT THE MEETING
WEDNESDAY AT 6:30**

**Veterans Day K8V setup begins
Thursday at 12:30 at the Veterans
Memorial**

73,
Tom W8JWN

MICH-A-CON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES OF October 12th 2016

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

Program

Matthew Meyers and Steven Gonzales, of Vertigo Climbing, LLC, gave a presentation on tower climbing equipment and safety.

Secretary Report

Minutes of the September 14th meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Report

Balances as of - October 12, 2016:

Checking - \$2.72

Savings - \$1810.41 (Repeater - \$387.60)

Petty Cash - \$22.00

Repeater Report

Skip Caswell reported that the amplifier on the 2-meter repeater has tripped 3 times recently, with high SWR. It could be overheating and tripping the SWR circuit. Once it is reset, it is fine. Once it is tripped, it is only putting out 15 watts. It is not believed to be an SWR problem. The only other issue is that the antenna waves in the wind. It may need a stabilizing arm on it. Bob Meyers reported that the 440 unit isn't working well, but he has another radio at home that will replace it.

Old Business

Tom Martin reported that a federal tax number, for the club, has been applied for. We are waiting on a response.

Terry Moriarity provided an update on the August Lighthouse activation. Fifty QSL cards have been ordered, from Vistaprint. The cost is about ten-dollars.

The Veterans Day special event activity will be discussed in detail at the November 9 meeting. Setup will be on Thursday, November 10, at 1:00 pm. Operations will take place on Friday, November 11 and Saturday, November 12.

New Business

Election of club officers will take place at the November 9 meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

For the Good of the Order

Attendees reported on their recent activities.

The 50/50 drawing was won by Dana Bey. Sixty dollars went to the club treasury.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Joe Ferris. Forty-five dollars went to the club treasury.

Submitted by Joe Ferris

Attendees

Tom Martin, W8JWN - President
Scott Jarmusch, KA8TFF - Vice President
Debbie Grabowski, KD8VTS - Treasurer
Joe Ferris, KC9TQR - Secretary
Skip Caswell, KE9L
Burt Armbrust, Sr., WB8EBS
Gary Schafer, K4FMX

Dana Bey, W8BEY
Terry Moriarity, K9TRY
Sam Holmes, N8ATS
Bill Grabowski, KD8VTT
Bob Meyers, WA8FXQ
Steven Golzales, Vertigo Climbing
Matthew Meyers, Vertigo Climbing

News

Distracted Driving Bill in Michigan UPDATE

On October 20, Ed Hude, WA8QJE (MI State Government Liaison) and I had the opportunity to set down with Representative Martin Howyrlak from the MI 41st District to discuss his Distracted Driving bill (HB 5867) that was recently introduced in the Michigan House of Representatives.

We were fortunate to be able to spend over an hour in conversation with Rep. Howyrlak and his Legislative Assistant Amanda Gill. Our suggestions for changes to the bill to exempt amateur radio from this legislative were readily accepted. The final language has not yet been determined, but a proposed rewrite shows great promise.

While it is likely that this bill will not be moved forward before the current legislative term ends, if Rep. Howyrlak is reelected, the bill will be introduced in the next legislative session. We will continue to work with Rep. Howyrlak and his staff to produce a bill that will not inadvertently cause harm to amateur radio operators.

For now we believe that this situation is under control, however we do urge that all radio amateurs exercise caution while operating from your vehicle.

73,

Larry, WB8R

Holding Hams Back from Adopting State of Art Tech

ZCZC AG37

QST de W1AW

ARRL Bulletin 37 ARLB037

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT October 12, 2016 (This is old idem)

To all radio amateurs

ARLB037 Current Rules Holding Hams Back from Adopting State-of-the-Art Technology, ARRL Says

In comments filed on October 12 with the FCC, ARRL reiterated its case that the FCC should impose a 2.8 kHz limit on symbol rate for digital modes, arguing that its approach is both balanced and necessary. ARRL had asked the FCC to change the Part 97 rules to delete the symbol rate limits in Part 97.307(f) and replace them with a maximum bandwidth for data emissions of 2.8 kHz on amateur frequencies below 29.7 MHz. In a July Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in WT Docket 16-239, the FCC proposed to eliminate the current baud rate limitations for data emissions, consistent with ARRL's Petition, but it declined to propose a bandwidth limitation for data emissions in the MF and HF bands to replace the baud rate limitations.

ARRL's comments can be found on in PDF format on the web at, <https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/file/1011120327463/>



[Comments%20of%20ARRL%20on%20NPRM%2010112016%20FINAL.pdf](#)

ARRL told the FCC in its comments that the current HF symbol rate "speed limit" reflects 1980s technology and has no place in an experimental radio service in which modern protocols could be efficiently deployed in crowded RTTY/ data subbands.

"The symbol rate limit was created in order to maximize the efficient use and reuse of that crowded, shared spectrum, but the assumptions made at the time are no longer valid," ARRL said, "and the rules now prohibit radio amateurs from utilizing state-of-the-art technology, thus precluding or substantially inhibiting any meaningful contribution to the advancement of the radio art in this area." ARRL said earlier assumptions are no longer valid mainly because there is no correlation between the data rate and the occupied bandwidth in the rules now.

The League said present rules in the HF data subbands promote inefficiency, allowing data transmissions of unlimited bandwidth as long as the symbol rate is sufficiently low, and it stressed that there must be some limit on occupied bandwidth for HF data emissions.

"Eliminating the symbol rate limitations for data emissions and substituting a maximum authorized bandwidth would permit the utilization of all HF data transmission protocols presently legal in the Amateur Radio Service, as well as state-of-the-art protocols that fall within the authorized bandwidth," the League said.

ARRL said that it could be "fairly debated" whether or not 2.8 kHz is the proper maximum bandwidth for data emissions. "Greater bandwidth for data emissions would permit a wider array of data emissions now and in the future," the League said in its comments.

"However, even 2.8 kHz could arguably permit usurpation of the subbands to the detriment of CW and other narrow-bandwidth emissions. ARRL views the 2.8 kHz maximum bandwidth proposal for data emissions at HF to be a necessary component of the FCC's proposal, and it fairly balances the objectives of facilitating use of new and future data emissions and protecting against usurpation of the band by a few data stations.

ARRL said it would be impossible to reduce the permitted maximum bandwidth for data emissions at HF much below 2.8 kHz without prohibiting data modes that are now legal. "At the same time, it would not be desirable to have a few data stations using large swaths of spectrum to the detriment of other modes," the League said.

The deadline to file reply comments in the proceeding - ie, comments on comments already filed - is November 10.

From: Jeffrey Stricker <jeffw9gy@pasty.net>

Date: October 13, 2016 at 6:15:30 PM CDT

To: KCRA <kcra-mi-l@kcra-mi.net>, AG8NT Dave <gonigam@charter.net>

Subject: Band [condx.com](http://bandconditions.com)

Interesting propagation website. Updates very frequently. BTW - serious solar event going on as I type this.

<http://bandconditions.com/>

ARLB032 W1AW 2016 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule

ARRL Bulletin 11 ARLB011
 From ARRL Headquarters
 Newington CT March 14, 2016
 To all radio amateurs

Morning Schedule:

| Time | Mode | Days |
|--------------------|------|----------|
| 1300 UTC (9 AM ET) | CWs | Wed, Fri |
| 1300 UTC (9 AM ET) | CWf | Tue, Thu |

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1400 UTC to 1600 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM ET)
 1700 UTC to 1945 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET)
 (Station closed 1600 to 1700 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM ET))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

| | | |
|---------------------|---------|---------------|
| 2000 UTC (4 PM ET) | CWf | Mon, Wed, Fri |
| 2000 " " | CWs | Tue, Thu |
| 2100 " (5 PM ET) | CWb | Daily |
| 2200 " (6 PM ET) | DIGITAL | Daily |
| 2300 " (7 PM ET) | CWs | Mon, Wed, Fri |
| 2300 " " | CWf | Tue, Thu |
| 0000 " (8 PM ET) | CWb | Daily |
| 0100 " (9 PM ET) | DIGITAL | Daily |
| 0145 " (9:45 PM ET) | VOICE | Daily |
| 0200 " (10 PM ET) | CWf | Mon, Wed, Fri |
| 0200 " " | CWs | Tue, Thu |
| 0300 " (11 PM ET) | CWb | Daily |

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8025 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675
 28.0675 147.555
 DIGITAL: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095
 28.095 147.555
 VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390
 28.590 147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15
 WPM CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20,
 15, 13 and 10 WPM CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18
 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs
 and CW bulletins.

DIGITAL = BAUDOT (45.45 baud), BPSK31 and MFSK16 in
 a revolving schedule.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each
 practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at
 the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2230 UTC (6:30 PM ET), Kep-
 lerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on
 the regular digital frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins
 between 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Thursdays and 0000 UTC
 (8 PM ET) Fridays.

Audio from W1AW's CW code practices, and CW/digital/
 phone bulletins is available using EchoLink via the
 W1AW Conference Server named "W1AWBDCT." The
 monthly W1AW Qualifying Runs are presented here as
 well. The CW/digital/phone audio is sent in real-time
 and runs concurrently with W1AW's regular transmis-
 sion schedule.

All users who connect to the conference server are mut-
 ed. Please note that any questions or comments about
 this server should not be sent via the "Text" window in
 EchoLink. Please direct any questions or comments to
w1aw@arrl.org.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for
 special bulletins as
 follows: Voice on the hour, Digital at 15 minutes past the
 hour, and CW on the half hour.

FCC licensed amateurs may operate the station from
 1400 UTC to 1600 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM ET), and then

ARRL MICHIGAN SECTION NEWS

Greetings to the Hams of Michigan:

It is official – Fall is here.....We have had our first frost on the pumpkin here in extreme Southern Michigan. The leaves are turning colors and thoughts turn to “I wonder if the furnace will start and run ok?”

This month I have the pleasure of making a major announcement about a new hamfest that is in the process of being organized in Michigan.

Recently, Dale Williams, WA8EFK and I have been working with officials from NASCAR (International Speedway Corp) concerning the organization of a hamfest/ convention to take place in the fall of 2017 at the Michigan International Speedway (MIS) near Brooklyn, MI.

There are a number of reasons that having a hamfest at MIS is a great idea:

1. Unlimited potential for growth
2. Located in SE Michigan in the Irish Hills
3. Free parking
4. 24 hour Site Security
5. Large buildings that can be utilized for commercial vendors as well as for flea markets
6. Paved infield areas
7. Food services that can range from modest to downright exciting
8. Electronic ticket and vendor/flea market sales
9. Quality spaces for meeting rooms, hospitality rooms and forums
10. Opportunities for overnight camping
11. A plethora of hotel rooms and unique and quaint Bed & Breakfast facilities nearby
12. Load in/out opportunities the day before and the day after event
13. Ancillary attractions relative to the racetrack
14. A unique and exciting place for a hamfest

How are we going to staff this venture? We are in the process of assembling a consortium of clubs to gather the necessary talent and staff to make this event successful. I will be hitting the road in the coming weeks to chat with clubs within a radius of about 50 miles of the track.

Look for more news soon....

HB 6857 Update

Recently, a Distracted Driving bill (HB 5867) was introduced in the Michigan House of Representatives by Representative Howyrlak. This bill, in our estimation, failed to adequately protect a number of entities, both commercial and private from the unintended consequence of potentially becoming illegal activities should the bill become law. One of those entities that was at risk was operating an amateur radio in a vehicle using a method other than handsfree.

Ed Hude, WA8QJE, MI ARRL State Government Liaison has contacted the office of Representative Howyrlak and has made an appointment for us to visit his office on October 20 to discuss how we can help him to produce a bill that does not negatively impact amateur or commercial 2 way radio.

Because we are nearing the end of the Legislative session (all bills not passed and signed by the Governor will ‘time-out’ at the end of the session) we don’t expect this bill to see the light of day in the current session. However, we are pretty certain that it will be reintroduced in the next Legislative term and we plan to provide the Representative with assistance to make sure that amateur radio is not negatively impacted.

Monroe County Radio Communication Assn 75th Anniversary Celebration

On October 20, The MCRCA will celebrate their 75th Anniversary with a very special event. In addition to the club becoming 75 years old, they will also be celebrating 50 years of ARRL Affiliation. The MCRCA also was Michigan's first Special Service Club. I am looking forward to attend what I am sure will be a very special evening. Thanks to the MCRCA for the invitation to attend.

Section Staff Travel Plans

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Oct 20, 2016 | Meeting w/Rep. Howyrlak & Staff, Lansing, MI – WB8R, WA8QJE |
| Oct 20, 2016 | Monroe County Radio Comm. Assn Mtg 75th Ann – WB8R |
| Oct 25, 2016 | Cherryland ARC Meeting, Traverse City, MI – WB8R |
| Oct 30, 2016 | USECA Swap & Shop, Madison Heights, MI – WB8R |
| Nov 1, 2016 | OCARS Meeting, Waterford, MI – WB8R |
| Nov 8, 2016 | Arrow Club Meeting, Ann Arbor, MI – WB8R |
| Dec 4, 2016 | L'Anse Creuse Swap, Madison Heights, MI – WB8R |
| Feb 4, 2017 | Hiawatha Amateur Radio Assn Shop & Swap – Negaunee, MI – WB8R |
| Feb 7 – 10, 2017 | MPSCS Interoperability Conference, Traverse City, MI – WB8R, et al |
| Feb 19, 2017 | Livonia ARC Swap & Shop – WB8R |
| Mar 11, 2017 | Lowell Amateur Radio Youth Club Hamfest – WB8R |

Hospitality Acknowledgements

Thanks to the following groups for their fine hospitality on recent visits:

| | |
|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Sep 17, 2016 | GRAHamfest, Wyoming, MI |
| Sep 18, 2016 | Adrian Hamfest, Adrian, MI |
| Oct 8, 2016 | Alpena Hamfest, Alpena, MI |
| Oct 15, 2016 | Muskegon Swap, Muskegon, MI |
| Oct 16, 2016 | Kalamazoo Hamfest, Kalamazoo, MI |

Michigan Section Traffic/ARPSC Nets (All times Local)

MACS - MI Amateur Communications System 3.952 1000 Daily

UPN – Upper Peninsula Net 3.921 1700 Daily; Noon Sunday
 MIARPSC – MI Amateur Radio Public Service Corps 3.932 1700 Sunday
 QMN – The Michigan Net 3.563 1830 and 2200 Daily
 MITN – MI Traffic Net 3.952 1900 Daily
 MIDTN – MI Digital Traffic Net 3.583 (Olivia 8/500) in waterfall 2000 Tues, Thurs, Sat
 MIADS – MI ARES D-Star Net Reflector 24A Mon 2000
 D8EN - District 8 Emergency Net 3.909 Wed 2100
 GLETN – Great Lakes Emergency and Traffic Net 3.932 2000 Daily
 MVTN – MI VHF Traffic Net IRA Link System 2100 Mon, Wed, Fri, Sun
 NLEUP - Northern Lower Eastern UP Net 146.64- 18:30 Daily
 SEMTN – SE MI Traffic Net 146.76- 2215 Daily
 TMMTN – Thumb Mid-Michigan Traffic Net 147.30+ 2130 Mon - Sat
 More information is available at <http://nts-mi.org/>.
 Come join us on our traffic and public service nets.

Michigan ARPSC Activities September 2016

Station Activity Reports (SAR): WB8WKQ 333, K8ED 310, WB8TQZ 118, WD8MWD 70, WD8USA 41, K8RDN 37, W8MSK 19, N8OSL 14, WB8RCR 8, KC8NFN 8, KD8LSM 4, WB8R 3

Total Station Activity Reports (SAR): 965

Brass Pounder's League (BPL): None

Public Service Honor Roll (PSHR): WB8R 179, KC8YVF 169, WD8MWD 135, WD8USA 120, K8RDN 118, WB8RCR 118, WB8WKQ 110, WB8TQZ 110, K8ED 100, N8OSL 84, NE8B 63, KC8NFN 48, KD8LSM 47, KE8BYC 21.

Net traffic: The Michigan Net 110, Michigan Traffic Net 96, Southeastern Michigan Traffic Net 74, Michigan Amateur Communications System 65, Upper Peninsula Net 40, Great Lakes Emergency and Traffic Net 40, Michigan Digital Traffic Net 19, Northern Lower Eastern Upper Peninsula Net 6, Saginaw County ARES Net 5, Genesee County ARPSC Traffic and Training Net 3, District 3 ARPSC Net 3, Michigan VHF Traffic Net 1, Red Cross Net of Greater Grand Rapids 1, Bay Area Regional Traffic Sys-



tem 1, Luce County ARES Net , District 5 Hospital Net , Branch County Emergency Net , District 8 Emergency Net , District 8 Digital Emergency Net , Michigan Amateur Radio Public Service Corps , Michigan ARES D-Star net , Chelsea ARC Net Total net traffic reported: 411

73 until next month,

Larry, WB8R

Volunteer Hours Dollar Value:

ARPSC: \$ 202,882

NTS: \$33,299

Total Dollar Value September, 2016: \$236,181

A hearty thank you goes to the hundreds of volunteers across the State of Michigan who work hard as volunteers to hone their skills month after month to make sure they are ready for any situation that may arise. Our ARPSC and NTS programs are an integral part of AuxComm, which in turn is an integral part of the Michigan Homeland Security Division.

Dales Tales

Greetings everyone, welcome to "Dale's Tales" for November, 2016.

DON'T FORGET ARRL Sweepstakes is coming in November. Get on the air!

The CW event is the weekend of November 7-9 and Phone is held the weekend of November 21-23. This is a USA and Canada contest and you can check out the details and the rules at the ARRL November Sweepstakes page: <http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>

THE HIRAM PERCY MAXIM MEMORIAL AWARD is given annually to a licensed radio amateur under the age of 21. The nominee must be a current ARRL member. The nominee's accomplishments and contributions to both the community of Amateur Radio and the local community should be of the most exemplary nature. These activities may include: Participation or leadership in organizational affairs at the local or national level, technical achievement, operating record, recruitment and training of new amateurs and/or public relations activities.

A few months ago, the winner of the Hiram Percy Maxim award for 2015 was announced. The honor went to Chris Brault, KD8YVJ, of Liberty Township, Ohio, a member of

the Great Lakes Division. The Division would like to formally recognize Chris for this national honor and will be holding an awards ceremony at the Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting in West Chester, Ohio, on Saturday, November 12th at 1 p.m. Hams throughout the division, but particularly those from the Greater Cincinnati area, are invited to this celebration. We invite all ham radio operators to come and meet Chris and congratulate him on his accomplishment.

The VOA Museum will be open from 1 – 4 p.m., with free admission. However, donations are always greatly appreciated. The facility houses three museums, one featuring the Voice of America transmitting facility (the Bethany Relay Station) which is the original purpose of the building; another the Media Heritage Museum, showcasing the history of broadcasting in the Cincinnati area; and finally the Grey History of Wireless Museum, with many old-time radios of all sorts.

In addition to the ceremony and reception, where hams can congratulate Chris in person, we hope to get him on the air from the West Chester Amateur Radio Association shack in the museum, so that hams throughout the Division can make contact with Chris. Details to be an-

nounced later, but we'll probably try forty meter SSB after 2 p.m. He'd appreciate making many contacts with hams in the Division.

For more details, contact Vice Director Tom Delaney, W8WTD, at w8wtd@arrl.org.

A NOTE ABOUT ARRL SANCTIONED HAMFESTS: With the year's end approaching in just two short months, the requests from Great Lakes Division Swaps for ARRL Sanctioning in 2017 seem to be running behind this year. It is important to note that obtaining ARRL sanction for your hamfest is not automatic. Your swap chairperson needs to file the request early to insure that there is adequate time to obtain the sanctioning approval, that way the swap will meet the deadline to be listed in QST and hamfest material can be shipped to you from ARRL Headquarters. It is never too early to register your hamfest with Headquarters.

WITH ABOUT TWO MONTHS LEFT to rack up the points in the National Parks on the Air operating event, one can only hope that a few of the missed parks re-appear before year's end. At last count, there were still 30+ "units" that have not been on the air. It has just been plain old good fun to get on and meet some of the challenges of making these contacts.

Check it out at <https://npota.arrl.org/>

TOM'S COMMENTS: Comments from our Vice Director Tom Delaney W8WTD:

This has been quite the year for anniversary celebrations. This month, I attended the 75th anniversary party for the Monroe County Radio Communications Association (Michigan), the third one I've attended.

Earlier in the year, the Dial Radio Club (Middletown, Ohio), celebrated their 75th, and in August, the Queen City Emergency Net (Cincinnati, Ohio) celebrated its 75th.

Why this year? For at least two, maybe all of them, the rumors and almost certainty of war in 1941 prompted them to be ready for community service. And in fact, war came, the hams were ordered off the air, but they managed to find ways to serve and stick together, and were ready to pick up again as soon as the war was over.

Looking back over the history of all three clubs is not just a nostalgic visit to the past. We can discover some important things about clubs that motivated them then, continues to make them successful, and can help us with the future of ham radio.

One thing you notice at the meetings is the loyalty and friendship among members. Yes, they've all done some crazy things together, and that helps, but they genuinely want to be there and be with members of the group.

Another thing is the dedication to public service. There is a long tradition of being there with communications in times of need. Each region is different, but whether there were floods or derailments or airplane crashes, or whatever, they were there to serve when called upon, and they spent many hours setting up stations and procedures, and meeting with partner agencies, to be sure they could be ready.

Field Day was a big thing for each club. Yes, it's part of the tradition of ham radio, but these folks really worked at it, and it provided great training, as well as great fun, for club members.

And speaking of training, each group had and has ongoing efforts to give license classes, and in general to "elmer" new hams so they learn and participate in all the aspects of ham radio.

So congratulations to each of the clubs on a special anniversary year.

And no matter how long your own club has been around, keep working to improve it and make it a source of learning and service for your community.

By the way, since he's too modest to mention it, I will – our Director, Dale, WA8EFK, was awarded a "lifetime achievement" award from the Monroe club. Among the many things he has done for the club over the years, his leadership skills are some of the most important.

I couldn't get an accurate count while watching the presentation, but Dale served as club president many times over four decades.

Congratulations, Dale!

Tom

73, Tom W8WTD Vice Director, Great Lakes Division



Here is the current Great Lakes Division ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest Schedule covering the next few weeks. These swaps have received their sanctioning approval from ARRL HQ at the time of this publication. We have approximately 65 ARRL hamfests each year in the Division. I do encourage each Hamfest Chair to register early for ARRL Sanctioning.

Be sure to invite your ARRL Officials as soon as your date is set. Tom and I are already committed for several dates in 2017 as are our Section Managers Scott N8SY, Alan KY1O and Larry WB8R.

Nov 5 - Grant ARC Hamfest - Georgetown, OH

Dec 3 - Fulton County Winterfest - Delta, OH

Dec 4 - Lanse Creuse Hamfest - Madison Hgts, MI --
NEW LOCATION

Jan 15 - SCARF Hamfest - Nelsonville, OH

Jan 29 - TSCO Hamfest - Strausburg, OH

Be sure to check your Section's news pages for the latest local happenings, club and net information.

73, See you on the bands,

Dale Williams WA8EFK

Director

Great Lakes Division

ARRL PROPAGATION BULLETIN

QST de W1AW

Propagation Forecast Bulletin 45 ARLP045 From Tad Cook, K7RA Seattle, WA
November 4, 2016
To all radio amateurs

At 2347 UTC on November 3 Australia's Space Weather Services issued a geomagnetic disturbance warning: "Expect Unsettled to Active conditions with periods of Minor Storm levels in the Australian region for the next UT day, 4 November, if a small coronal hole in the Southern hemisphere will become geoeffective."

But as of November 3, the prediction from NOAA/USAF for planetary A index for November 4 and 5 is only 10 and 8.

Over the past reporting week (October 27 through November 2) we saw two days with no sunspots, October 28 and November 2. Prior to the past week, in recent memory only October 1 had no sunspots either. Average daily sunspot number for the week was 9.1, down from 18.7 over the previous seven days. Average daily solar flux rose, but only slightly from 76.9 to 77.5. Geomagnetic indicators were slightly lower, with average daily planetary A index declining from 20.3 to 18.1, and mid-latitude A index from 16.7 to 13.4.

Predicted solar flux is 78 on November 4-7, 75 on November 8-11, then 80, 78 and 75 on November 12-14, 73 on November 15-16, 78 on November 17-18, 77 and 75 on November 19-20, 78 on November 21-22, 80 on November 23-25, 78 on November 26, 80 on November 27-29, 78 on November 30, 82 on December 1-3, 80 on December 4-5, 78 on December 6-7, and 80 on December 8-9.

Predicted planetary A index is 10 and 8 on November 4-5, 5 on November 6-10, then 10, 15, 18, 10 and 8 on November 11-15, 5 on November 16-18, then 8, 15, 54, 42 and 24 on November 19-23, then 18, 22, 18, 15 and 12 on November 24-28, then 8 on November 29 through December 1, then 5 and 8 on December 2-3, and 5 on December 4-7.

Looking at our three-month moving average of sunspot numbers, the average sunspot value for August 1 through October 31 was 39. Over the same three-month period in 2015 the average was 64.5, and in 2014 it was 108.4.

Petr Kolman, OK1MGW of the Czech Propagation Interest Group sent us this on October 3.

"Geomagnetic activity forecast for the period November 4-November 30, 2016

"Geomagnetic field will be: Quiet on November 7-8

Mostly quiet on November 4, (9-10), 15-18, 29-30 Quiet to unsettled on November 5-6, 11, 14, 19, 27-28 Quiet to active on November 12-13, 20, 24 Active to disturbed on November 21-23, 25-26

"Amplifications of the solar wind from coronal holes are expected: on November 5-6, 12-13, 20-26

"Remarks: - Parenthesis means lower probability of activity enhancement."

Richard Dillman, W6AWO of Point Reyes Station, California saw the reference to the ARRL National Parks on the Air activity by N8II in last week's bulletin, and wrote:

"I hope/assume you have bagged K6KPH, one of the only permanent stations in a national park (Point Reyes National Seashore). With separate 1.5kW transmitters and gain antenna for each frequency we get out pretty well - propagation permitting! We're on the air each Saturday and Sunday from 1200 to about 1700 Pacific time."

Indeed, I see their weekly Saturday schedule listed under Events on the NPOTA web site: <https://npota.arrl.org/nps-events.php>

Jimmy Mahuron, K9JWJ, submitted this reference to construction of a VLF receiver for detecting Sudden Ionospheric Disturbances:

<https://www.aavso.org/improved-gyrator-tuned-vlf-receiver>

Regular contributor David Moore sent this about recent aurora: <https://shar.es/1I0lvj>

Richard Ferry, K2KA of Westford, Massachusetts sent this a week ago, just after I submitted last week's bulletin to Newington, on October 28:

"6 Meters has been pretty quiet here, brief Es opening on October 25 at 1754Z one hour. Worked 5 stations in GA and one AL Es. Been hearing some activity on 50145 Meteors.

"There was a brief Au opening on the October 26 around 2200Z, called CQ with beam to the north but no takers."

Ran across this from Discover Magazine about solar seismology: <http://bit.ly/2f7cvGU>

Jeff, N8II reports again this week from West Virginia, this time about last week's CQ World-Wide SSB DX Contest.

"Starting Monday before the contest, the K index was 4 or higher almost all week and storm levels moderate w/G3 or strong(?) w/G4 were common. Despite this, paths from east through south to west were not that bad up to 15 meters. I was able to work a loud JE1 in Japan on 20M SSB one night and JA1NUT on 20 CW another both around 2220Z and small portable/mobile stations from National Parks were mostly near normal signal levels, very workable. Thursday seemed to be the worst day and Friday 2nd worst.

"The forecast for the CQ WW DX contest was for disturbed conditions, and boy did we get that and more! A week before the CQWW last Sunday 15 M was wide open to every corner of Europe at 1330Z, but absolutely no northern EU or even zone 16 worked in the WW. The zones missed on all bands were 18 (heard RWOA, Russia on 40), 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29 (nothing heard from Australia on 20 LP and looked), 32 (only heard ZM1A, New Zealand calling a station), 34, and 37 (worst ever missed list with serious effort). My best/biggest surprise DX QSO was VR2, Hong Kong on 40 M over the south magnetic pole after sunrise.

"The other big surprise was EU on 10 M from 1519-1553Z on Sunday working Spain, Portugal, France, and Balearic Is. Also worked on 10 were Canary Is. (many), Morocco, South Africa, Cape Verde Is., Senegal, Ceuta, and Ascension Is. 10 never seemed to open west farther than Mexico, no Hawaii. Queensland, Australia was worked 3 times around 21Z on 15 M. Even 20 never opened well to northern EU; Poland and Belarus had deep polar flutter on 20 Sunday morning, but I made the QSOs. The low bands were pretty much a disaster with high absorption. Everything past zone 33 in NW Africa was weak on 40 both Saturday and Sunday evenings. I did work a VK4, Australia on both 40 and 75 M, and T32AZ on Christmas I. (south of Hawaii) 75 M. There were thousands of Russians active, and I worked none at all in my 24 hours of operating except RWOCN on 20 M around 22Z Saturday on the Kamchatka peninsula near Alaska! Alaska was

worked around 20Z on 20M only. UP2L, a big station in Kazakhstan saved me from missing zone 17 on 20M around 1230Z Sunday.

"There were some pluses against the obvious minuses. Sporadic-E opened 10 meters to almost all of the Caribbean early Saturday morning with S9+ signals. At the same time there seemed to be Es from central to west EU on 15 (stations running at very high rates).

There was also strong auroral Es Saturday evening to the north on 20/40 with booming VE2s and 3s, but no big over the pole opening. I did work about 6-8 Japanese on 20 with weak signals then as well as zone 19. It seemed like Puerto Rico/Virgin Is. was in a sweet spot for propagation and they were well represented with activity.

Propagation to the south did seem enhanced at times especially on 10 M. From my perspective, the most under represented country was New Zealand (no QSOs, worked a passel in WPX CW), and the biggest turnout was Chile with an explosion of new calls on 10 and 15 Sunday afternoon/evening. The Canary Is. were also out in big numbers.

Thank goodness there were many Spanish stations active, but turnout from France and Italy did not seem quite up to normal.

"Most DX operators did a very good job under challenging conditions; 20 was absolutely jammed with south EU most of Sunday as was 40 at the start. I missed many northern/eastern European countries that I normally always get on 20 and 15 meters. On 20 I worked only one station each from Denmark, Sweden (barely), and Norway, and two from Finland, no Aland Islands. Many Caribbean/Central America/South America stations were

worked by me on all 3 higher bands as there was less to work in Europe, and many other NA stations were looking south."

Thanks, Jeff!

In closing, the ARRL CW Sweepstakes is this weekend. See <http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes> for more information.

If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at k7ra@arrl.net. For more information concerning radio propagation, see the ARRL Technical Information Service web page at, <http://arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. For an explanation of the numbers used in this bulletin, see <http://arrl.org/the-sun-the-earth-the-ionosphere>. An archive of past propagation bulletins is at <http://arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive-propagation>. More good information and tutorials on propagation are at <http://k9la.us/>.

Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at <http://arrl.org/propagation>.

Instructions for starting or ending email distribution of ARRL bulletins are at <http://arrl.org/bulletins>.

Sunspot numbers for October 27 through November 2 were 12, 0, 16, 12, 12, 12, and 0, with a mean of 9.1. 10.7 cm flux was 78.9, 79.2, 79.1, 76.2, 76.7, 76.5, and 76, with a mean of 77.5. Estimated planetary A indices were 28, 17, 27, 18, 11, 11, and 15, with a mean of 18.1. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 18, 16, 18, 13, 8, 9, and 12, with a mean of 13.4.

ARRL DX NEWS

DX Bulletin 45 ARLD045
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT November 3, 2016
To all radio amateurs

ARLD045 DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by QRZ DX, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News,

The Daily DX, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites.
Thanks to all.

TANZANIA, 5H. Maurizio, IK2GZU will be QRV as 5H3MB from November 7 to December 2. QSL to home call.

MADAGASCAR, 5R. Eric, F6ICX will be QRV as 5R8IC from Sainte Marie Island, IOTA AF-090, from November 6 to

February 4, 2017. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands using mostly CW. QSL to home call.

SENEGAL, 6W. A group of operators will be QRV as 6V1IS from Dakar from November 7 to 19. They also plan to be active from islands Ngor and Goree, both IOTA AF-045. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL via IK7JWX.

ALGERIA, 7X. Special event station 7U2ARU will be QRV from November 7 to 15 in celebration of the 2nd anniversary of the founding of the Algerian Amateur Radio Union. QSL via operators' instructions.

CHINA, BY. Bodo, DF8DX plans to be QRV as B4/DF8DX from Shanghai from November 9 to 16. QSL via operator's instructions.

ANTARCTICA. Alan, MW0YCC will be QRV as VP8DPJ while stationed at the British Antarctic Territory Rothera Research Station on Adelaide Island, IOTA AN-001, until April 2018. QSL via operator's instructions.

EASTER ISLAND, CE0. Esteban, XQ7UP is QRV as CE0Y/XQ7UP until November 12. Activity is mostly on 20, 15 and 10 meters using SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL direct to home call.

SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, E5. Roly, ZL1BQD is QRV as E51RR from Rarotonga Island, IOTA OC-013, until November 25. Activity is on 40, 20 and 15 meters using CW, JT9 and JT65. QSL to home call.

HONDURAS, HR. John, AD8J is currently QRV as HR9/AD8J from Guanaja Island, IOTA NA-057, until November 12. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using mostly CW. QSL direct to home call.

GUINEA-BISSAU, J5. A group of operators will be QRV as J5T from the Bissagos Islands, IOTA AF-020, in November. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters. QSL direct to IK2CIO.

JAPAN, JA. Yamao, JR5JAQ plans to be QRV as JR5JAQ/6 from the Tokara Islands, IOTA AS-049, from November 6 to 9. Activity will be on 40, 20 and 15 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via bureau.

FERNANDO DE NORONHA, PY0. Martin, LU9EFO will be QRV as PY0F/LU9EFO from November 7 to 14. Activity will be on the HF bands using mostly SSB. QSL direct to F4HBW.

MALI, TZ. Jeff, TZ4AM is QRV from Bamako. Of late he has been active on 160 meters. QSL via W0SA.

MICRONESIA, V6. Michael, DF8AN will be QRV as V63AJ from Yap Island, IOTA OC-012, from November 6 to 20. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, with some RTTY and PSK. QSL to home call.

CAMBODIA, XU. A large group of operators are QRV as XU7MDC from Phnom Penh until November 13. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB and RTTY with up to five stations active. QSL via IK2VUC.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The ARRL CW Sweepstakes Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, NCCC CW Sprint, IPARC CW Contest, Ukrainian DX Contest, RSGB International SSB Sprint Contest, IPARC SSB Contest, EANET Sprint, High Speed Club CW Contest, DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest will certainly keep contesters busy this upcoming weekend.

The ARS Spartan CW Sprint is scheduled for November 8. The Phone Fray, CWops Mini-CWT CW Test and RSGB 80-Meter Club SSB Sprint are scheduled for November 9.

The ARRL National Parks on the Air event runs during all of 2016 to mark the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service.

Please see November QST, page 94 and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest web sites for details..



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*Cooper Country Radio Amateur
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www.ccras.net*

Area Repeaters

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| | 145.13- No PL |
| Wells 444.30+ | No PL |
| Gladstone | |
| IRLP 4013 147.55 Smpx | 100.0 |
| Champion 146.82- | 100.0 |
| Cooks 146.70 - | 110.9 |
| GrdMarais 147.195+ | No PL |
| Gwinn 146.64 | 100.0 |
| Iron Mtn 146.85 - | No PL |
| Iron River 145.17- | 107.2 |
| Ishpeming 146.91- | No PL |
| IRLP 8993 443.50+ | 100.0 |
| Manistique 146.79 - | No PL |
| Marquette 146.97 - | No PL |
| | 147.27+ 100.0 |
| | 444.80+ |
| | No PL |
| Menominee 147.00+ | 107.2 |
| Newberry 146.61 + | No PL |
| | 147.09+ 114.8 |
| Republic 147.09+ | No PL |
| Trenary 147.03 + | 100.0 |
| Wetmore 145.41- | 100.0 |

ARRL Affiliated Club Area Nets

UP Net 3921khz
Daily 5pm EST
Sunday Noon EST

UP CW NET 3590khz
Sunday 7pm EST

160 Net 1895khz
Everynight 0100UTC
Dailey 0600UTC

Midcars 7258khz
Daily 0730am EST
0200pm EST

Outhcars Node 9614
Saturday 0900am EST

UP Echolink Node 9617
Sunday 8pm EST

Delta County ARES
147.150
Sunday 7pm EST

Mich-A-Con Social
146.850
Thursday 0630pm CST
ARES follows

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

ARRLMICHIGAN: <http://www.arrl-mi.org/>

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

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

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

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

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

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

E Ham Net <http://www.eham.net/>

UP Skywarn: <http://kera-mi.net/skywarn/>



ABOUT OUR CLUB....

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Activities:

Second Wednesday of the month the Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club meets in the Dickinson Country Library at 7:00 P.M. Winter or 6:30 PM Summer

Visitors and prospective members are always welcome!

Club Repeater:

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. The range of the 440 MHZ repeater is about 25 miles. Both are under normal conditions, depending upon terrain.

The Repeater Specifications:

The 146.85 repeater is a Yaesu DR 1 digital and Analog repeater Frequency. 146.85 minus offset, 100 hz PL tone encode and decode Power 50 watts. The Controller is an Arcom RC 210 . It is also System Fusion capable.

. The 440 MHZ repeater is a GE Master II 444.85, plus offset, 100 hz pl tone. 35 watts output. The Controller is a Arcom 210.

The 2 meter and the 440 can be linked. The repeaters share a Diamond dual band antenna at a tower height of 125 ft.

We're on the Web!

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

Previous editions of the Newsletter can be accessed by a link on the **news** page

From Your Newsletter Editor

Thank you to those contributors and critiques. Welcome your articles - They make the Newsletter.

For those not getting the Newsletter, it is because I have an incorrect email address. Please give me the correct address.

The following is referenced from <http://www.dx-code.org>

DX Code Of Conduct

I will listen, and listen, and then listen again before calling.

I will only call if I can copy the DX station properly.

I will not trust the DX cluster and will be sure of the DX station's call sign before calling.

I will not interfere with the DX station nor anyone calling and will never tune up on the DX frequency or in the QSX slot.

I will wait for the DX station to end a contact before I call.

I will always send my full call sign.

I will call and then listen for a reasonable interval. I will not call continuously.

I will not transmit when the DX operator calls another call sign, not mine.

I will not transmit when the DX operator queries a call sign not like mine.

I will not transmit when the DX station requests geographic areas other than mine.

When the DX operator calls me, I will not repeat my call sign unless I think he has copied it incorrectly.

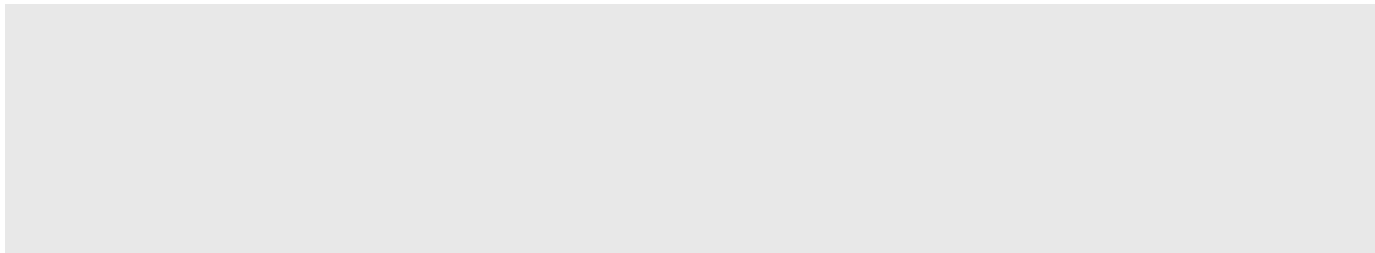
I will be thankful if and when I do make a contact.

I will respect my fellow hams and conduct myself so as to earn their respect.



MEMBERSHIP

| Call Sign | Last Name | First Name | City | Phone | Email |
|-----------|------------|------------|---------------|--------------|--|
| WB8EBS | ARMBRUST | BURT | QUINNESEC | 906-774-8383 | wb8ebs@yahoo.com |
| W8XBO | ARMBRUST | ED | IRON MOUNTAIN | 906-779-5593 | w8xbo@sbcglobal.net |
| KC9KVP | BAKER | BETH | NIAGARA | | |
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| KB8SBP | BERTOLDI | BILL | KINGSFORD | | |
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| K9TRY | MORIARITY | TERRY | NIAGARA | 715-251-1670 | kb9zer@yahoo.com |
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| K8ABS | RIVERSIDE | JIM | IRON MOUNTAIN | 906-458-0773 | jriverside@charter.net |
| W8IFI | RYE | JIM | CRYSTAL FALLS | 906-875-3582 | jimrye@up.net |
| KG9Y | THOMAS | DAVE | NIAGARA | 715-251-1393 | ke9y@arrl.net |





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