

Mich-A-Con RF

Iron Mountain, Michigan

November 29, 2012

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

5 Apps To Get You Through A Natural Disaster

from: *foxnews.com*

October 29th 2012

(submitted by Paul Shultz KD8KUF via email)

For those caught in a hurricane like Sandy, which promises winds of up to 85 mph and a huge storm surges as it barrels up the East Coast, mother nature's majesty can become a dangerous threat. Could a smartphone be your savior? Several apps for iPhones and Android-based phones offer a solution -- take a few minutes to download one or more to help yourself prepare.

American Red Cross

The Red Cross hurricane app provides help at your fingertips: It includes one-touch, "I'm safe" messaging to reassure friends and family, NOAA weather alerts and shelter locations, and checklists to help you and your family prepare. Download the app from redcross.org, or call "***REDCROSS" (**73327677) from your smartphone to have a download link sent directly to your phone.

Disaster Readiness

An affordable app that could make a difference, Disaster Readiness is an emergency prep guide with more than 175,000 reference guides on how to respond to any disaster situation. Should the power go out, you won't be able to rely upon the Internet for information. This handy app

should have all the info you need, with sections on floods, fires, evacuation, and how to find or create shelter in an emergency. Available for Google Android-based phones and Apple iPhones, Disaster Readiness is a great way to make your smartphone even smarter.

iMapWeather Radio

NOAA radio alerts are a crucial source of information in a disaster. This \$10 app can wake your phone up in case of an emergency, and provides local weather forecasts while you travel. And using the GPS in your phone, it can track you and monitor your safety.

Download it from Apple's iTunes store.

Disaster Alert

Available for iPhones or Android phones Disaster Alert provides a list of all active natural hazards around the world. If knowledge is half the battle, this free app could make a real difference.

Red Panic Button

If you're caught in a dangerous situation, getting the word out might be a lifesaver. The Red Panic Button is essentially a one-touch beacon to do just that, broadcasting your GPS location and a Google Maps link out via e-mail, text message and Twitter to your emergency contact. Download it for Android or iPhone.

Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the November 13th, 2012 Meeting

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

Secretary Report

The minutes of the October 9th meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Report

Balances as of November 7th, 2012:

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Checking	\$ 52.77
Regular Savings	\$ 442.08
Trailer Fund	\$1828.85
Repeater Savings	\$1003.21
Petty Cash	\$ 6.00

We now have 37 + paid members.

Repeater Report

No problems were reported. Republic, MI has a new repeater on 147.82, PL tone 100.

ARES

Has had two recent meetings with low turnout. is every Thursday at 6:30pm on 146.850 repeater.

Old Business

Field Day results were posted in the newsletter.

Veterans Day event at Pine Mountain was due to lack of member volunteers. President Tom will apply for Call Sign K8V for next year.

N3FJP logging program was not purchased as approved last month because it is not needed.

President Tom visited Jim Faulkner of Foster City to help him setup his HF equipment and get on the air as previously discussed. His rotor was inoperative and they couldn't get it to work right. We discussed if the club wants to sell our extra rotor to Jim and for how much. It'll be next Spring before he's ready so we have plenty of time to decide.

New Business

Club officer elections. Motion by Skip Caswell, KE9L with support by Joe Ferris, KC9TQR to reelect all current officers to new one year terms. All Yes's. Motion passed.

A brief overhead demonstration by Paul Schultz, KD8KUF – Secretary of a few miscellaneous websites was made which included a few website recommendations of the members as follows:

khanacademy.org/ - 3,300 free training videos
hamtestonline.com
sketchup.google.com
qrzcq.com
dxer.org
hamnation.com

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

For the Good of the Order

Attendees reported on their recent activities.

Submitted by Paul Schultz

Attendees

Tom Martin, W8JWN - President
Burton Armbrust Sr., WB8EBS - Treasurer
Scott Jarmusch, KA8TFF - Vice President
Paul Schultz, KD8KUF - Secretary
Skip Caswell, KE9L
Barry Perron, KC9NFT
Joe Ferris, KC9TQR
Fred Broschart, KC9SBY
Tom Heyboer, KC8TH
Joe Komblevicz, KB8ETK

**Minutes Correction for November:
Submitted via email by Paul KD8KUF**

On the way home from my camp Sun night I listened to the net on the republic repeater on 146.82, PL 100 but was unable to get through probably because I was too far away.

Error in November meeting minutes: "Republic, MI has a new repeater on 147.82, PL tone 100".

According to the following link the Frequency and PL tone is as shown below:

http://www.repeaterbook.com/repeaters/details.php?state_id=26&ID=7372

Frequency: 146.8200- minus PL: 100.0

Location: Republic

County: Marquette

State: Michigan

Call: KB0P

Use: OPEN

Op Status: On-Air

Coverage: 20 mi radius.

Sponsor: Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association (HARA)

Mich-A-Con ARC Activities for December 2012

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						<i>1</i>
<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> <i>ARES</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> <i>Meeting</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> <i>ARES</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> <i>BREAKFAST</i>
<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> <i>ARES</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> <i>ARES</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>					

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 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 3rd 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;

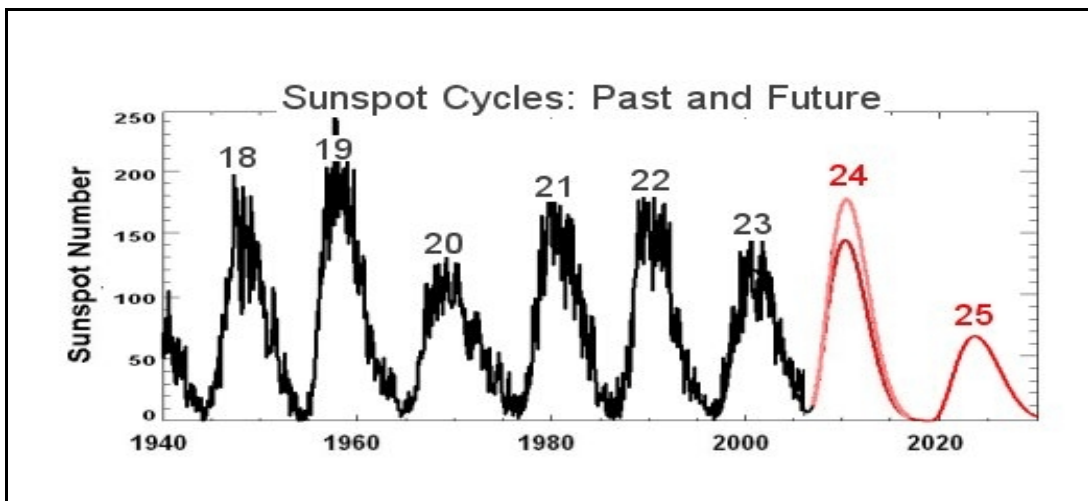
The 146.85 repeater is a Melco Hi Pro (built from a kit in the 1970s with a 25 watt output. The repeaters share a Diamond dual band antenna at a tower height of 125 ft.

Words from the President: Tom W8JWN

Will 10 meter DX Return? (From a 2011 “Words from the President”)

By W8JWN

A 2009 prediction, published in a report at www.spaceweather.com, states: “The panel predicts the upcoming Solar Cycle 24 will peak in May 2013 with a daily sunspot number of 90. If the prediction proves true, Solar Cycle 24 will be the weakest cycle since number 16, which peaked at 78 daily sunspots in 1928, and ninth weakest since the 1750s, when numbered cycles began.”

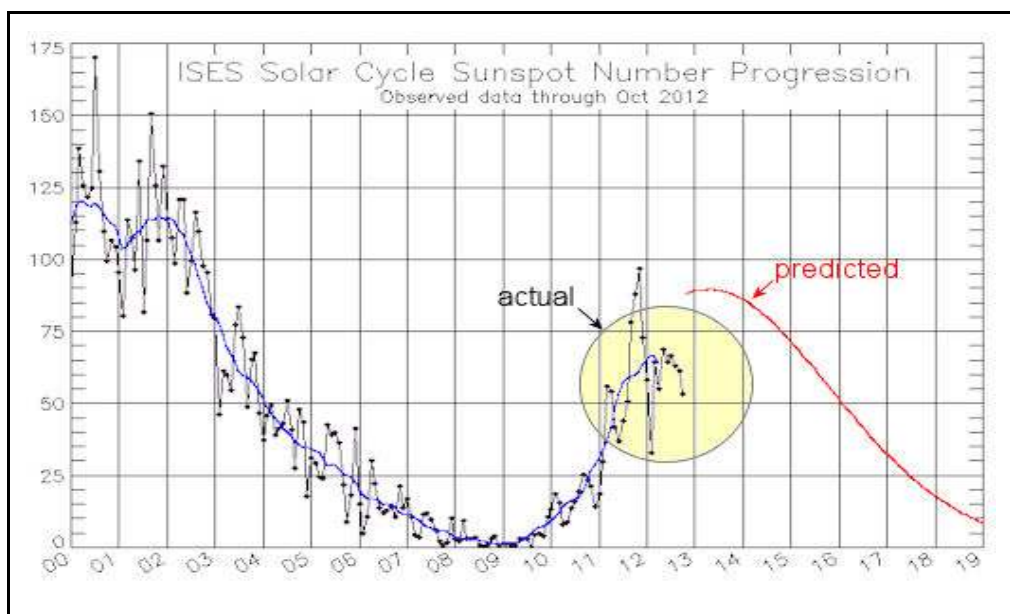


Looks like the low bands will continue to be best for DX. It's time to work on those 40 and 80 meter verticals, 4-Squares, if you have the room, and, if you have the cash and the tower, 2-3 element beams for 40. If you think about it, 2020 isn't that far away!

UPDATED December 2012

After listening on 10 meters this past weekend, during the 10 Meter RTTY contest, I believe that Solar Cycle 24 is the worst that I've ever seen. I could only copy a N6 and a KP4. Both stations didn't return my call. I pumped 1000 watts into the ionosphere to no avail. The SFI was 98. Today, December 3rd, it is 97. Will it ever get back into the 140s like a few months ago?

SO THIS IS SOLAR MAXIMUM? Forecasters have long expected the Solar Max of 2013 to be the weakest of the Space Age. It might be even weaker than they thought. As shown in this 20-year plot of sunspot counts vs. time, the sun is underperforming:



V.E. TESTING:

02/02 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).

12/10Marquette: 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 or Greg KI8AF 906 225-1594 ki8af@arri.net.

1/?? 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@arri.net if you have questions. You can now take a Hamexam "Anytime". Contact Glenn, WA8QNF at (906)482-7743 for details.

1/12 Gladstone: Sponsor: Delta County Amateur Radio Society Time:10:00 AM (Walk-ins welcome) Contact: Dave Palmgren N8DP, (906) 428-2271, n8dp@dcars.org Vec: ARRL/VEC Location: 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

Name: _____
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 in January.

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.



Club Patches are available from:
Burt Armbrust WB8EBS
693 Cliff St
Quinnesec, Mi 49876

The patches are 3 inches in diameter and sell for \$3 each.

If ordering by mail please include a SASE along with your payment.

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:

Scott Jarmusch KA8TFF

s_jarmusch@yahoo.com

Secretary:

Paul Schultz KD8KUF

(906) 774-8900

pauls@schultzequipment.com

Treasurer:

Burt Armbrust WB8EBS

(906) 774-8383 retary:

Paul Schultz KD8

wb8ebs@yahoo.com

Reminders:

Club dues for the year 2013 are payable on January 1st. 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 December 11th , 2012. It will be held in the Dickinson County Library at 7 PM

Wanted:

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

Send them to:

kd8ccp@arri.net