

Mich-A-Con RF

Iron Mountain, Michigan

December 27, 2012

In This Issue:

Words from the President

Dues Form
Club Patches
VE Testing

NASA Now Accepting
Applications for Hosting a
Real - Time Conversation
with ISS Crew Members

Minutes of the December
11th 2012 Meeting

Calendar of Events
Club Activities
Club Repeaters

Wi Spy: Seeing Through
Walls with a Wireless
Router

Morse Code Plays Roll in
New Spielberg Movie

Tennessee Amateur Radio
Club Participates in
Exercise "Winter Storm
2012"

Club Meetings
Club Officers, Reminders

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

Words from the President Tom W8JWN

It seems like it was just a few months ago that I wrote that 2012 arrived quickly. Now, as I write this, it will be 2013 in less than 80 hours. The past year has flown by! Someone told me that, as you get older, time seems to fly by. Obviously, that "some one" was an old codger like myself.

I have no New Year's resolutions for 2013. I mentioned 9 of them in the January 2012 'Words'. I actually followed about 6 of them. I have done well responding to bureau QSL cards, avoiding being a "policeman" on a DX station's frequency, reading (at least skimming) QST the month of its publication, and not using too much compression on SSB. However, I have still failed to hang some awards in the shack. My wall space is limited. I suppose I'll have to take down some older certificates and replace them with more recent contest awards. Decisions, decisions...!

Every 10 years, or so, the club takes a survey of its members. Club officers like to know what members are thinking about the club and its activities. This year, we have an on line survey. It is anonymous and is found at the following link.: <http://kwiksurveys.com/s.asp?sid=i5z5sxyjwxasner64041>

Please take the time to answer the short survey. The results will be revealed in the next newsletter.

I hope that all of you reading this had a most joyous Christmas and a wonderful New Years celebration. See you at the next meeting.

73,

Tom W8JWN

**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.**

**Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of the December 11th, 2012 Meeting**

Vice-President Scott Jarmusch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Secretary Report

The minutes of the November 13th meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Report:

**Membership Dues Received: \$10.⁰⁰
Checks were written to: AT&T for \$26.¹⁴**

Balances as of November 30th, 2012:

Balances as of November 30th, 2012:	
<u>Checking</u>	\$ 26.63
<u>Regular Savings</u>	\$ 452.28
<u>Trailer Fund</u>	\$1829.62
<u>Repeater Savings</u>	\$1013.67
<u>Petty Cash</u>	\$ 6.00

We now have 5 paid members for 2013.

Repeater Report

Bob Meyers turned the heat on and checked the repeater. It's OK with 1,000 microvolt sensitivity but has a lot of loss. The 24 volt power supply is not large enough. We need a 10-15 amp, 24 volt power supply.

ARES

Seven check-ins last week which was an increase. Bob Meyers has the announcement back up and running on the repeater. Feel free to make your own announcement reminding everyone about the net on Tuesday or Wednesday nights. The n every Thursday at 6:30pm on the 146.850 repeater.

New Business

Burton Armbrust Sr. reported that emergency medical supplies are stored at 12 locations throughout the country including inoculations and are continually rotated to reduce vulnerability. In the event of an emergency, the Health Department will contact local government agencies to arrange distribution and then will distribute supplies to one county

location and major employers (Ex: Verso has been asked to join).

Burt recommends that each member introduce themselves to their local fire department or their local health department and request to be put on the distribution list to receive inoculations in the event of an emergency. Bring your ham radio license.

Skip Caswell, Bob Meyers and Nate discussed having another Technician class this winter. Class will start the week of Feb 6th and be held once per week at the library. What day of the week would be the best? An announcement will be put in the Daily News at least twice asking for interested people to contact Skip. Cost is only the book at \$29.95. Some discussion was to use a website in lieu of a book and use the class time to review material and answer questions instead of reading the questions out of the book. Motion by Skip to purchase three instructor books. All yes's. No no's.

Old Business

The antenna is tuned-up and operating @ Sheriff's Department.

President Tom renewed K8V for Nov. 9th – 11th, 2013 for Veteran's Day.

President Tom discussed having a member interest survey in an attempt to increase club participation. Nate suggested a few websites that offer free online surveys. Tom will arrange for the survey and request participation via email.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 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
Joe Komblevicz, KB8ETK
Jim Riverside, K8ABS
Nate Mieras, KD8GLP
Mike Bray, K8DDB
Bob Meyers, WA8FXQ

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.

V.E. TESTING:

02/2 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).

3/9Marquette: 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@arrl.net.

1/26 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 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/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

NASA Now Accepting Applications for Hosting a Real-Time Conversation with ISS Crew Members

From:

ARRL Letter for December 6, 2012

NASA is now accepting proposals from US schools, museums, science centers and community youth organizations -- individually or working together -- to host an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contact between May 1, 2013 and November 1, 2013. To maximize these radio contact opportunities, NASA is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan. Radio contacts are approximately 10 minutes in length. ARISS contacts are supported by the program's US partners -- the ARRL and AMSAT -- and their member volunteers, as well as other international space agencies and Amateur Radio partners. Proposals are due January 28, 2013.

Interested parties can visit the ARRL website or the NASA Teaching From Space website for information about proposal requirements and how to submit a proposal, as well as links to audio and video of archived contacts. Five information sessions are also available for groups who are considering submitting an ARISS proposal. Access to the Internet and a telephone line are required to connect to a session. Information on how to sign up for these sessions is available on the ARRL and NASA websites.

Mich-A-Con ARC Activities for January 2013

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1	2	3 <i>ARES</i>	4	5
6	7	8 <i>Meeting</i>	9	10 <i>ARES</i>	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 <i>ARES</i>	18	19 <i>BREAKFAST</i>
20	21	22	23	24 <i>ARES</i>	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 <i>ARES</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.

Wi-Spy: Seeing Through Walls with a Wireless Router

Source: Popular Science! August 2012

(via email sent from Paul KD8KUF)

In the 1930s, U.S. Navy researchers stumbled upon the concept of radar when they noticed that a plane flying past a radio tower reflected radio waves. Scientists have now applied that same principle to make the first device that tracks existing Wi-Fi signals to spy on people through walls.

Wi-Fi radio signals are found in 61 percent of homes in the U.S. and 25 percent worldwide, so Karl Woodbridge and Kevin Chetty, researchers at University College London, designed their detector to use these ubiquitous signals. When a radio wave reflects off a moving object, its frequency changes—a phenomenon called the Doppler effect. Their radar prototype identifies frequency changes to detect moving objects. It's about the size of a suitcase and contains a radio receiver composed of two antennas and a signal-processing unit. In tests, they have used it to determine a person's location, speed and direction—even through a one-foot-thick brick wall. Because the device itself doesn't emit any radio waves, it can't be detected.

Wi-Fi radar could have domestic applications ranging from spotting intruders to unobtrusively monitoring children or the elderly. It could also have military uses: The U.K. Ministry of Defense has funded a study to determine whether it could be used to scan buildings during urban warfare. With improvements, Woodbridge says, the device could become sensitive enough to pick up on subtle motions the ribcage makes during breathing, which would allow the radar to detect people who are standing or sitting still.

It's possible to detect a person's breathing rate by surrounding him with radio waves. Neal Patwari's wireless engineering group at the University of Utah designed a network of 20 inexpensive radio transmitters that are placed around a patient's bed. Then they created an algorithm that detects a stationary person's breaths better than current detectors do. Patwari plans to upgrade the algorithm by the end of the year to filter out body movements too. The system could someday be used in hospitals in place of tubes and masks.

Source: Popular Science! August 2012

Morse Code Plays Role in New Spielberg Movie

from:

ARRL Letter for November 29th 2012

11/27/2012

Producer Steven Spielberg has used Amateur Radio or Morse code in three of his last four movies: *Super 8* (2011), *The Adventures of Tin Tin* (2011) and *Lincoln* (2012). Members of the Morse Telegraph Club (MTC) -- an association of retired railroad and commercial telegraphers, historians, radio amateurs and others with an interest in the history and traditions of telegraphy and the telegraph industry -- played an integral part in the production of *Lincoln*.

According to International President of the Morse Telegraph Club James Wades, WB8SIW,

several MTC members -- including Tom Perera, W1TP; Derek Cohn, WB0TUA; Kevin Saville, N7JKD, and Roger Reinke -- provided telegraph instruments to equip the 16 operating positions portrayed at the War Department set. Jim Wilson, K4BAV, and his son Matt had roles as extras. Wilson also worked with production staff and the actors to explain telegraph technology and the role of the telegrapher in the 1860s.

“Nine of the 16 telegraph positions depicted in the War Department were fully operational,” Wades said. “These instruments could be operated in any combination through the use of a specialized computer program and custom built terminal units for the process. When necessary, a hand key could be inserted in the individual telegraph loops so messages could be improvised.”

Wades, who was employed as a Technical Advisor for the production, worked with set designers over a period of months to develop the War Department telegraph scenes, coordinating the process of procuring the necessary instruments and serving as an historical consultant as the telegraph scenes were developed. He also worked the producers to develop historically appropriate message traffic that fit the sequence of the script; however, as the movie was edited, he explained that the final product evolved into a more generic facsimile of Morse traffic. “Those with a background in landline telegraphy will hear the occasional snippet of message traffic in the audio track of the movie,” he said. “We are very pleased that Mr Spielberg and his staff took the time to treat the telegraph with dignity and respect. It is a pleasure to be associated with a high quality motion picture that can genuinely be classified as not just entertainment, but as a work of art.”

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/>

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

Tennessee Amateur Radio Club Participates in Exercise "Winter Storm 2012"

from:

ARES E-Letter, November 21st 2012

Members of the DeKalb/Cannon County (Tennessee) Amateur Radio Club participated in an emergency exercise on Saturday, October 6, 2012. The Simulated Emergency Test was titled "Winter Storm 2012," and was conducted with DeKalb and Cannon County EMAs. The exercise scenario was a winter storm that entered Tennessee from the west near Memphis and moved into middle Tennessee west of Nashville by noon on Saturday. The storm shut down all major Interstates and highways across the state, with major widespread power outages.

Portable HF and VHF/UHF stations and antenna systems were constructed, evaluated for performance, and deployed at several locations including DeKalb West School, Woodland School, and atop Short Mountain. Stations at Cannon County High School, DeKalb Community Hospital, and Stones' River Hospital were also activated and evaluated for effectiveness.

The Amateur Radio station at the DeKalb County EOC located at the Smithville Fire Hall was the command center for the exercise. Messages were sent to the State EOC at the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) in Nashville via wireless computer-radio links. These messages contained SITREPs for DeKalb and Cannon counties, and were sent from either the DeKalb EOC or the mobile station setup atop Short Mountain by HF radio to an automated station in another part of the U.S., outside the local simulated disaster area. Messages then went via one of five hardened servers located worldwide (for redundancy), and then into the regular Internet, to be delivered via e-mail anywhere that e-mail is available. Thus, if the Internet were down locally or even regionally, by using the Winlink 2000 system, we would still have some e-mail capabilities. This was in addition to and separate from the usual local and area VHF/UHF operations.

A total of 14 radio amateurs from throughout middle Tennessee checked into the emergency radio network. Local amateur repeaters were used as well as VHF/UHF and HF point-to-point networks. Check-ins included ARRL ARES officials DeKalb County EC Kathy Kujawski, NF9G, and Cannon County EC Freddy Curtis, KC4GUG. Additional stations checking into the radio network were John O'Conner, KD4WX, ARES District 6 Emergency Coordinator; Dallas Rife, KK4ISW, Shelbyville; and Gary George, WB4CWS, of McMinnville.

The club thanked DeKalb County Emergency Management Director Charlie Parker, and Cannon County EMA Director Faye Morse, as well as DeKalb Community Hospital and Stones' River Hospital for their support of local participation in this annual state-wide exercise. The club is affiliated with the ARRL. -- Wm. Freddy Curtis, KC4GUG, DeKalb/Cannon County Amateur Radio Club, Smithville, Tennessee

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 January 8th , 2013. 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@arrl.net