



Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club  
 Lansing Civil Defense Repeater Association  
 P O BOX 27321  
 LANSING MI 48909

# The Scope



Set/Oct 2003

## "Absolutely Unbelievable!" Hams Support Massive Firefighting, Relief Effort

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>CMARC/LCDRA Board Members</i>	2
<i>Care for Old Radio Equipment</i>	2
<i>Prescription Programs</i>	3
<i>Hams Support Firefighting Efforts (cont'd)</i>	4
<i>Upcoming Presenters</i>	4
<i>For Sale</i>	4
<i>Local Nets</i>	4
<i>Treasurer's Report</i> —	6
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	7
<i>Birthdays/Anniversaries</i>	7

NEWINGTON, CT, Oct 27, 2003--As wind-driven fires continue to burn in California, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) teams have activated to assist local authorities and relief organizations.

Statewide, authorities report 11 separate fires and at least 13 dead. Gov Gray Davis has declared states of emergency in four counties.



**California burning:** The California fires as viewed from the International Space Station on October 26. Lake Arrowhead is visible in this view. [NASA Photo]

Eleven of the fire-related deaths occurred in San Diego County, where incredibly fast-moving fires driven by hot, dry Santa Ana winds have burned over upward of 25,000 acres. ARRL San Diego Section Manager Kent Tiburski, K6FQ, says the fires encroached on more-populated areas, forcing thousands to flee and destroying homes and businesses. Two of the dead reportedly included a couple trying to escape the flames in their car.

"Absolutely unbelievable!" is how Tiburski described the situation today. "This is the worst fire that has ever hit the county, and fire crews are not in control of the multiple blazes at this time."

The Ramona Fire--the major blaze--has sparked about a half-dozen fires in San Diego County. "The fire currently is in the City of San Diego," Tiburski said. "It's all around us right now, to the north and to the east."

He reminded all amateurs to keep an ear on their local repeaters for further developments. So far, he estimated, some 100 ham radio volunteers are participating, many of them supporting the efforts of relief agencies such as the Red Cross and The Salvation Army.

"We're staffing six shelters throughout the county," Tiburski said, adding that resources were being stretched thin. The Red Cross and The Salvation Army were sharing duties at the shelters, which were providing refuge for some 1200 people. Tiburski estimates another 5000 are staying elsewhere. Additional hams have deployed to San Diego-area emergency management offices and hospitals.

The majority of support communication was taking place on VHF, Tiburski said, with Lyons Peak (146.265 MHz, CTCSS 107.2 Hz) as the primary repeater for ARES communicators. Other amateurs are maintaining nets, and hams in San Diego County have been making use of HF because fires have compromised or damaged some repeaters.

The San Diego ARES Net has been activated on 7.233 MHz with 3.905 MHz as a backup. The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) also has (cont'd on page 5)

## CMARC BOARD MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION

"Bruce" Rainey	KC8ODP	(517) 627-9118	kc8odp@arrl.net	President
Tom Shaver	KC8NJK	(517) 651-6694	kc8njnk@arrl.net	Vice President
Dick McGuire	KI8C	(517) 782-1430	dickki8c@juno.com	Secretary
Randy Stortz	K8VY	(517) 393-0634	rstortz386@msn.com	Treasurer
Clint Hannahs	KC8EHR	(517) 882-1799	kc8ehr@arrl.net	Director
Gregg Mulder	WB8LZG	(517) 646-6257		Director
Kevin Mulder	KC8QZE	(517) 646-6257		Under 22 Director
John Ingraham	NG8L	(517) 484-8027	ng8l@arrl.net	Membership Chair

## LCDRA BOARD MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION

Dan Harger	W8BCI	(517) 882-8784	w8bci@juno.com
"Bruce" Rainey	KC8ODP	(517) 627-9118	kc8odp@arrl.net
Don Rickerd	W8BQD	(517) 339-8496	
Dennis Boone	KB8ZQZ	(517) 337-0857	drb@msu.edu
Troy Creed	W8TCC	(517) 323-6358	w8tcc@arrl.net
Hal Bell	W8LAY	(517) 484-0962	
Scott Newfer	W8SRN	(517) 373-0786	



## Care for Old Radio Equipment

Many of the hams who have been around for a while often have used gear somewhere gathering dust. For many, it may be an old piece of gear they used while a novice or just a particular fondness for a rig from years past. You can see these rigs at your favorite HAMFEST on many weekends.

Some of the rigs you'll see are still as if they were brand new, others look like they

were actually used as boat anchors, and most are someplace in between. If you want your equipment to retain that "looks just like new" appearance then read on.

First step, tender loving care. Beautiful old gear doesn't just happen by accident. It's been cared for every time it was used, and keeping the gear clean is the best and easiest way to keep the appearance up. I

f possible use a cover of some sort to protect the rigs from dust and scratches during periods of no use. If they do get dirty, don't be afraid to wipe them down with a soft rag rinsed in mild soap and water and squeezed so no water gets it to the gear.

Often a good cleaning will bring new luster back to even a very dirty rig. Don't forget to clean the

rubber feet on the bottom too, if neglected they will crack and wear out. Radios that have fans circulating air through them should have their covers removed yearly and any dust and dirt build-up blown out.

This is also a good time to clean the insides of the dial or replace burned out dial lamps. Resist the temptation to clean strong stains with harsh chemicals or abrasives as they may damaged the paint or finish.

Step two, use the gear. Regular usage will help keep the caps from going bad, and will also help keep vital moving parts moving freely. Regular use will help alert you to potential trouble too. Maybe a low output means it's time for a new final tube. This will also insure that the rig works in times of need. (cont'd on page 6)

### Hamfests for October

Nov 2

Blossomland ARA

**Contact:** Duane Durlinger, KX8D  
1051 Main Street  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
Phone: 269-982-0404

Email: comdac@comdac.com

# Prescription Programs

While looking into prescription programs for my Mother, who like many people on Medicare has no prescription coverage, are low income, and face the choice of either buying her meds or her food (ok, so we all know I'm not going to let her starve), I came across three potentially helpful programs.

The first is *LillyAnswers*, for scripts from Eli Lilly. For \$12 per script, the program provides up to a 30-day supply for most Lilly meds.

You can apply for a *LillyAnswers* card by either downloading an application from [www.lillyanswers.com](http://www.lillyanswers.com), or by calling 1-877-795-4559 and requesting an application form.

Eligibility requirements are :

1. Medicare enrollee

2. No other prescription drug coverage
3. Individual annual income below \$18,000 or household income below \$24,000

Please note that only Eli Lilly meds are covered under this program.

The second is the *TogetherRx* card, which provides up to a 40% discount on various meds from several different drug companies.

You can download an application or even apply on-line at [www.together-rx.com](http://www.together-rx.com) or [www.togetherrx.com](http://www.togetherrx.com) , or call 1-800-865-7211 for an application.

Local RiteAid and Walgreen's also have the application forms. Eligibility is the same as for *LillyAnswers*, but income

can be up to \$28,000 for individuals and \$38,000 for couples.

The third is the Capital Area Prescription Program (CAPP), for seniors in Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton counties.

The *CAPP* card provides a 5-25% (and sometimes more) discount from participating pharmacies. Information on the program is at [www.communityhealthplans.org/CAPP.asp](http://www.communityhealthplans.org/CAPP.asp) or call Ingham Co. Health Dept at 887-4306. You can now also apply online.

And the *best* part is that the cards are FREE; you pay only for the medications.

72 de N8PVZ  
Bernard F. Gaffney, Jr.

## Food For Thought

- Bread
- Butter
- Cheese
- Chicken
- Cornbeef
- Cucumbers
- Fajitas
- Hotdog
- Juice
- Lettuce
- Milk
- Noodles
- Peanuts
- Pizza
- Pork
- Potato
- Rice
- Squash
- Steak
- Tomatoes
- Turnips
- Watermelon
- Zucchini

L E T T U C E Z N I M P O R X Q F M P S D A K L C  
 Q P W O E I R U T Y L A I N N I C C U Z K S D C H  
 J F H G M Z N X B C P V P L O K M I J N U H O B I  
 Y G V T F C R D X R I C E E S Z W A Q M N R B V C  
 H O T D O G C X Z L Z K J H G F D S A P N O I U K  
 Y T R E W E Q A Z B Z Y C X D W P E V B F U G T E  
 H S I R S J Q K P L A O M N N O M L E P K Q J R N  
 I S H E T G U F V E W D X C R Y B E Z A C H I C K  
 T H E B W L V I Y C F P E K C K F L N U B Z Q R H  
 N H O O D L E A B E R M Q Z X Y N E O G V P R W X  
 C F U T C Y U I O P H J O L N M Q W L E R T A S D  
 F G Z X C V V T I K E R T Q N W B E E V R C T X Y  
 Z U A O T N S P L D L F A G J H W A M E R M E L H  
 Z G J Q E O T I O L J G T A X V N W R R Y S I P S  
 K H F S Z O M C B M D L O J A W D E E S K R S E A  
 J B W S D D E A S T R C P E S T C J T S J E E B U  
 J R W B J L E W T B W L R J J B R E A D K B M L Q  
 B J D A R E C A H O M C U S C U M B W F L M Q A S  
 V G P I U S T A E K E V Z S T K H W D B J U C I E  
 X P K N A R T F H Q N S S P U U B Y Q X M C V Z O  
 Q W K E R R Y U I O P L K I J H N G F D S U A Z X  
 C V B A N M P O I U Y T R N E W Q A A S E C I U J  
 D F G H E J K L M N B V C R X Z R R E T U B K B R  
 F J I T D T E O G N W C L U T T U C E P R I N G E  
 F A J I T A S M F W P R E T T U B B T Q G K A S X

**Do You Think You Know Almost  
Everything? (Part II)**

**Check this out!**

1. "Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in "mt"
2. February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon
3. In the past 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated
4. If the population of China walked past you, in single file, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction
5. If you are an average American, in your whole life, you will spend an average of 6 months waiting at red lights
6. It's impossible to sneeze with your eyes open
7. Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors
8. Maine is the only state that is one syllable
9. No word in the English language rhymes with 'month', 'orange', 'silver', or 'purple'
10. On a Canadian two dollar bill, the flag flying over the Parliament building is an American flag
11. Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing
12. Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite
13. Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated
14. 'Stewardesses' is the longest work typed with only the left hand, 'lollipop' with the right

## Local Nets

ARES/RACES	Mondays (except 3rd Monday)
	8:30 pm
	146.58 simplex
DTACS	Tuesdays
	7:00 pm
	146.39

## Upcoming Presenters At CMARC Meetings

Come on out to the monthly CMARC meetings and check out the great informational presentations that CMARC has to offer. The following list is comprised of tentative presenters for upcoming CMARC Meetings. Presenters begin their presentations at approximately 9:00 pm and last about 30 minutes.

- ☞ **Doug Bates**  
Board of Water & Light  
Crisis Supervisor
- ☞ **Karen Chadwick**  
911 Center Supervisor  
Ingham County
- ☞ **Dave Karr**  
American Red Cross  
Food Distribution Controller
- ☞ **Larry Estlack**  
Emergency Alert System Coordinator  
State of Michigan
- ☞ **Nancy Lindman**  
Michigan 211 Coordinator

### For Sale or Not!

Kenwood 530S Transceiver. 162 through 10 meters. Good condition. Contact Dick Stortz, K8JNZ, 517-323-4598.

Free: TVRO Mesh Dish and 2 receivers. Contact Scott Rowe, KB8HTM, Bath, MI, at 517-641-6201

(cont'd from page 1)

been using 7.233 MHz as a coordinating frequency.

Tiburski is requesting clear frequencies on 7.233 and 3.905 MHz to handle emergency traffic. Hams are not handling health-and-welfare traffic at this time.

ARES members also have been helping Red Cross Disaster Assessment Teams (DATs), but Tiburski said they had limited mobility at this stage of the fire. Schools and businesses have closed for the emergency, and some highways remain closed to traffic. San Diego International Airport was shut down over the weekend and evacuated.

San Diego-Area SATERN Coordinator Paul Cook, N6RPF, reports that SATERN has been assisting with communication for a number of canyons in the San Diego area and that the situation is busy and intense. He says some broadcast radio stations have had to leave the air because of the fires' proximity.

Among the newest outbreaks is the Otay Fire some five miles south of Dulzura. The National Interagency Fire Center reports major runs with rapidly spreading flames caused by winds. The Otay Fire increased 10,000 acres in just six hours. Tiburski said he lives within 10 miles of the Otay fire.

"It's almost like it's snowing over here with all the soot and debris coming down out of the sky," he said. Santa Ana winds have reached velocities of 50 MPH, and at least one fire jumped a major highway.

ARES teams in San Diego County were handling logistic communications for the Red Cross, which is

supplying meals to first responders as well as to the shelters. RACES teams have been working with county officials at the emergency operations center (EOC).

Among those evacuated was ARRL San Diego County Section Emergency Coordinator Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ, who lives in El Cajon. Tiburski said Bunsold was assisting at a secondary EOC set up at an Elks Lodge, which is serving as one of the shelters.

Elks Club members have pitched in to assist with meals, Tiburski said. "This is unbelievable, the amount of destruction," he said. "It's basically touched everybody."

Tiburski said ARES and RACES members--including some who do double duty as Red Cross volunteers--could be involved for several days. He said Amateur Radio operators also may assist in mop-up operations once the fires are under control.

### Los Angeles & Orange Sections

In the Los Angeles area, ARRL Los Angeles SM Phineas Icenbice, W6BF, reports ARES members from his section have been assisting with fire-related activations in the Orange and San Diego Sections.

Los Angeles SEC Dennis Smith, KA6GSE, says ARES volunteers from the section also are helping at Red Cross shelters in LA.

Icenbice says the Santa Ana winds have made it difficult for some of the "super scoopers"

firefighters use to try to douse the flames to fly and pick up water. He called it the worst fire situation he's seen in four decades of living in the Los Angeles area and said the smoke was so thick at times that firefighting aircraft could not get off the ground or navigate.

Orange SM Carl Gardenias, WU6D, said ARES volunteers have been supporting San Bernardino County in supporting emergency communication. ARES in Orange was called out on Saturday and Sunday to supplement communications for 26 Red Cross shelters in the Orange Section, one of them housing 1700 people.

Amateur Radio also is being used at the EOC in San Bernardino, and amateurs there also have been assisting the fire department. Gardenias said that with some highways still closed, it's difficult to get from one portion of the county to another.

Communication is important to locate resources and direct them to the places that need help, he said, and hams have been pulling together to provide it and to assist relief agencies.

He reports the Santa Ana winds were easing somewhat, and a high-pressure system was on its way, bringing cooler temperatures to the fire-afflicted Orange Section.



(L-R) Ken Nelson, W6NEL, James Nagel, AB0WM--an ARES Emergency Coordinator-- and Thomas Renny, KC6LQV, at work in the San Bernardino County Fire Department Communications

**CENTRAL MICHIGAN AMATEUR  
RADIO CLUB  
TREASURER'S REPORT  
October 28, 2003**

Account Balances  
As of October 28, 2003

**ASSETS:**

**Cash & Bank Accounts**

Mich. Nat'l Bank Checking	\$ 746.58
Mark & Marilyn Humphreys' Fund	<u>\$ 445.00</u>
<b>TOTAL Cash &amp; Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 1,191.58</b>

**Other Assets:**

Comerica Bank \$1,000.00 CD	\$ 1,515.22
Interest due CMARC	<u>\$2.55</u>
CD Total worth to date	\$ 1,517.77
Acct. Rec. Memberships LCDRA	\$40.00
Acct. Rec. Scope Prnt/Send-LCDRA	\$147.29
Acct. Rec. CMARC Share/Hamfair	<u>\$91.63</u>

**TOTAL ASSETS:** \$ 1,796.69

**LIABILITIES:** \$0.00

**TOTAL NET WORTH:** \$ 2,988.27

Income & Expenses  
September 28 to October 28, 2003

**INCOME:**

Dues	\$40.00
Directory sales:	\$2.00
Acct. Rec. Scope Prnt/Send-LCDRA	\$147.29
Acct. Rec. Memberships LCDRA	\$40.00
Acct. Rec. CMARC Share/Hamfair	<u>\$91.63</u>

**TOTAL INCOME:** \$320.92

**EXPENSES:**

Scope Cost for printing & mailing	\$73.25
Bank Checking	<u>\$10.00</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$83.25</b>

**TOTAL NET PROFIT:** \$237.67

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Randall Stortz, K8VY  
Treasurer

## Care for Old Radio Equipment

(cont'd from page 2)

Step three, proper storage. If you are going to store a radio for an indefinite amount of time, please be sure to package it properly to protect from damage, and strive to store it in a clean, low humidity environment. A damp musty basement is to be avoided if possible.

Hope you got a few pointers here to keep your radio gear looking great. Remember, a clean rig is a happy rig, and every ol' timer ham will tell you, a shiny radio bags more DX! I'll cover some tips on restoration next month. Keep the dust off your key!

'Til next time 73 Gregg WB8LZG

From the Editor:

Due to the generosity of CMARC members, I, along with my husband, Doug, KC8UUF, were able to attend the ARRL Michigan State Convention on Friday, October 31 to represent CMARC as the third place winner in the newsletter contest. Considering the membership of Michigan hams in the ARRL, I was surprised at the small size of the banquet (less than 100 people).

Because of unknown complications, the awards for the contest were not available at the banquet, although all recipients were announced and asked to stand if they were there. As it turned out, I was the only editor present, which surprised a lot of people. The award is to be presented to us at a latter date.

Since we were already in Holland, we took advantage of the situation and attended the Holland ARC Ham-Fest on Saturday. Wow, what a turnout!! We also ran into a few people from Lansing (Gregg, WB8LZG; Steve, W8CRH; and Jack, WA8AIL).

Here's to everyone having a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends!! See you next month!

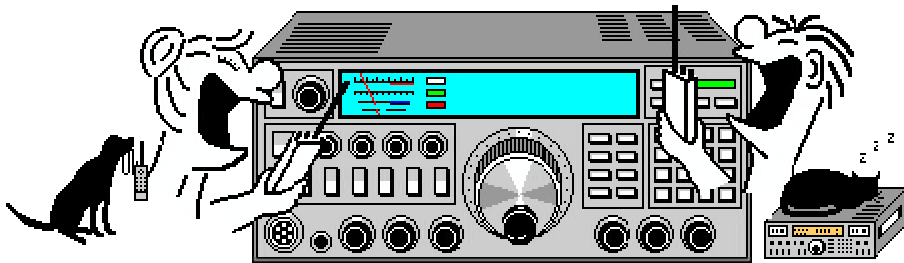
Evelyn Sitterson, KC8YMN

# November 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 	28	29
30						

## Special Items of Interest

- \* Richard Cole is looking for a housekeeper. Contact him at the next CMARC meeting



## October Schedule of Events

- Nov 3 DTACS Meeting  
7:00 p.m., Delta Township Fire Station
- Nov 7 CMARC Meeting  
7:30 p.m., Red Cross Building, Lansing
- Nov 8 .39ers meet at Nic's  
3812 S MLK Blvd  
8:00 am
- Nov 12 OOTC (Old Old Timers Club)  
Flap Jack,  
1601 N Waverly Rd  
1:00 pm
- Nov 15 .39ers meet at Nic's  
3812 S MLK Blvd  
8:00 am
- Nov 22 .39ers meet at Nic's  
3812 S MLK Blvd  
8:00 am
- Nov 17 Lansing ARES/RACES  
ICSD, Mason  
7:00 pm
- Nov 29 QWCA  
Korner Kitchen  
Mt Hope & Pennsylvania  
8:00 am

## November Birthdays

- Nov 15 Randall Stortz, K8VY  
Nov 15 William Wing, W2PMH  
Nov 18 Marv Sommer, WB8OIP  
Nov 19 AC Stoddard, W8KLN  
Nov 27 Ken Fitzgerald, N8FPR

## November Anniversaries

- Nov 1 Douglas D Goodrich  
Nov 21 Greg Hiscock  
Nov 23 Gregg C Mulder  
Nov 30 AC Stoddard

Address or Email change?

Please make corrections on this page and mail to:

John Ingraham/NG8L, Membership Chairman  
2807 Greenbriar Avenue  
Lansing, MI 48912

Or email changes to: NG8L@arrl.net

[www.qsl.net/cmrc](http://www.qsl.net/cmrc)  
**80 Years of Service to Our Community!**  
[www.qsl.net/lcdra](http://www.qsl.net/lcdra)

Remember America's Heroes



Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club  
Lansing Civil Defense Repeater Association  
P O BOX 27321  
LANSING MI 48909



**CMARC**— Full membership: \$10 per year.  
Associate membership: \$5 per year.

Please make check or money order payable to CMARC and mail to: John Ingraham/NG8L, Membership Chairman, 2807 Greenbriar Avenue, Lansing MI 48912.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member?  Yes  No

Email SCOPE?  Yes  No

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth day: \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Anniversary: \_\_\_\_\_

As a licensed Amateur, you can sign up today as a FULL member of CMARC. You will have voting rights as well as an annual subscription to the SCOPE. As an ASSOCIATE, you have an annual subscription to the SCOPE, but no voting rights.

**LCDRA**— Membership: \$15 per year (January to January)  
Additional family members: \$7.50 per person

Send check or money order payable to:  
L.C.D.R.A., PO Box 80106, Lansing MI 48908

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member?  Yes  No

Email SCOPE?  Yes  No

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth day: \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary: \_\_\_\_\_

Use of the repeater does not REQUIRE membership, but your support is GREATLY appreciated.

HAMFEST 2003

- Swap/Trunk Sales \$4.00
- Table \$8.00

Send payment along with this form to the address above.