



The Scope

Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club Lansing Civil Defense Repeater Association

October 2015
Volume 15
Issue 8

Please Welcome Dale Williams/WA8EFK

CMARC welcomes Dale Williams/WA8EFK, as guest speaker at the October meeting. Dale has been an active ham since 1962 and has held ARRL positions of Emergency Coordinator, Section Emergency Coordinator, and Section Manager. He enjoys working DX and is currently spending a lot of time on JT65. Dale serves on the tech committee of the River Raisin Repeater Association and is a member of the Monroe County Radio Communication Association. He also has the honor of serving as the current Director for the Great Lakes Division of the ARRL. He retired from Motorola in 2002 where he was a Field Project Manager.

Please join us on Friday, October 9th at 7:00 PM in the Salvation Army building, located at 701 W. Jolly Road in Lansing.



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October Birthdays

10/2 Derek Flory/KD8VRS
10/13 Jane Hosford/KC8FSK
10/20 Matt Warncke/W8MAT

October Anniversaries

10/4 Mike Holcomb/WA8KZY
10/26 Joseph/N8VYS & Pamela/KB8PSF Denomme
10/27 William Smith/KD8ZFR
10/31 Alan Shaw/WB8YOX

Meeting Information

CMARC



Don't forget to join us for our next meeting on Friday, **October 9th** at 7:00pm in the Salvation Army building, located at 701 W. Jolly Road in Lansing. For more information, you can check out our website at

www.centralmiarc.com or just get a hold of Club contact Don McLain/KB8RAD at (517) 694-0812 or KB8RAD@arrrl.net

LCDRA



The next quarterly meeting of the "Lansing Civil Defense Repeater Association" will be at 7:00pm on Thursday, **October 15th**

at Lansing Fire Station #8, located on the corner of Marshall Street and Grand River Avenue in Lansing. If you're interested in what's REALLY going on with the repeaters, come on out to the meeting where you can get your information "straight from the horse's mouth" and maybe even JOIN!

New CW (Morse Code) Class

*Tom Rocheleau/WA8WPI is starting up an entry level CW (Morse Code) class. If you have always wanted to learn the code, but never had a chance to do so, or if you need a good refresher, this is the class for you. We hope you can join us at the Salvation Army building every Tuesday, from 7-9 pm. **Classes begin October 6th and run through November 10th.***

Please contact Tom for more info or to sign-up.

wa8wpi@frontier.com

Treasurer's Report

Jerry Waite / KD8GLN - CMARC Treasurer

Bank Balances for Sept. 2015

Primary Share Acct. (Humphreys Fund)	\$1,092.02
Business Checking	\$4,637.45
Net Worth	\$5,729.47
Youth Fund Balance*	\$253.62
Building Fund (Club Station)	\$9.09
Field Day	\$472.47

* Separate from CMARC Funds

Upcoming Hamfests

Date: **10/10/15** (TBARC Swap)
Location: Alpena, MI
Sponsor: Thunder Bay Amateur Radio Club
Website: www.thunderbayarc.org

Date: **10/17/15** (Color Tour Hamfest)
Location: Muskegon, MI
Sponsor: Muskegon Co. Emergency Communication Services, Inc.
Website: www.mcecs.net

Date: **10/18/15** (Kalamazoo Hamfest)
Location: Kalamazoo, MI
Sponsor: Kalamazoo Amateur Radio Club
Website: www.kalamazoohamfest.com

Date: **10/25/15** (USECA Hamfest 2015)
Location: Madison Heights, MI
Sponsor: Utica Shelby Emergency Comm Assoc.
Website: www.usecaarc.com

Start an amateur radio virtuous circle

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU



On the ham_instructor Yahoo Group (https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ham_instructor/info) recently, we talked about the classes that we are going to be offering this fall. About his Tech class, Bob, KoNR, noted, “Currently have about 30 students signed up. We keep thinking we’ll run out of interested people but they keep coming.”

I’ve noticed the same thing here, too. I keep thinking that I am going to run out of people to teach, but I have no problem at all filling my classes. In fact, I’d go so far as to say that the more people that have taken my class, the more people there are that want to take it.

Of course, this makes perfect sense. If there are more people out there who have amateur radio licenses, there are more people out there talking about amateur radio, and actually doing amateur radio. And, the more people out there talking about and doing amateur radio, the more likely it is that other people will become interested in amateur radio and get their licenses as well.

It’s an amateur radio “virtuous circle.”

What does this tell you? Well, if you’re in a place where amateur radio seems to be dying out, or belong to a club that is slowly fading away, start a class! I think every club should hold classes at least once a year, even if that first class has only one or two students. Those first few students are the start of your virtuous circle.

Don’t know how to start a class? I can help you there. Start by reading my blog post, “Teaching a one-day class” (<http://www.kb6nu.com/teaching-a-one-day-tech-class/>). It has a lot of practical information, including tips on how to select a venue, how to publicize the class, how to get people

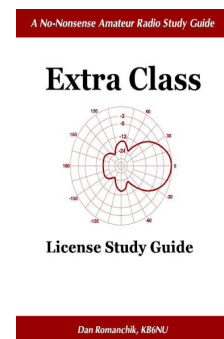
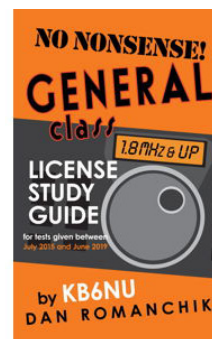
When not teaching ham classes or publishing amateur radio study guides, Dan, KB6NU, operates CW on the HF bands (mostly 40m and 30m). His #1-rated amateur radio blog can be found at KB6NU.Com, and you can e-mail questions, comments, or complaints to cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

to sign up for the class, and finally, how to teach the class.

You might also want to join the ham_instructor mailing list I mentioned earlier. It’s a relatively low-volume list, but the subscribers have a lot of experience that you can tap into.

Also, get a copy of my free Tech study guide (<http://www.kb6nu.com/study-guides/>). Not to brag (well, OK I am bragging), but it I really think that it’s the best study guide for a one-day class. The study guide presents the topics in exactly the same order as I cover them in class. Read through it and you’ll see what I mean.

If you need more help, or even just some encouragement, e-mail me, and I’ll do what I can to help you. Seriously. •



Why You Should Learn Dah Dit Dah Dit Dit Dah Dah

By Don Keith, N4KC



I know. Morse code's old news. *Passé*. Fuhgeddaboutit! With a plethora (whatever a plethora is) of wonderful, modern digital modes, and with good, solid SSB, FM, and even a smidgen (whatever a smidgen is) of AM-with-carrier

to use to communicate, why would anyone want to learn the code now that you don't have to do so in order to earn a ham license?

I maintain there are at least ten good reasons for everyone—new ham or OT—to get out the code tapes, limber up the keying hand, build an oscillator, and learn the squeaks and squawks with which Samuel F.B. Morse and Alfred Vail blessed us way back in the 1840s. Here are my ten. Others may be able to add more and I hope they will.

As a means of getting the message through, the code has stood the test of time. In one form or another, the code has been in use for over 160 years. It must have something going for it! Even now, with no requirement for even knowing a dit from a dah to become a licensed ham, there are plenty of stations to talk with, and contest activity on CW is stronger than ever.

In marginal band conditions, CW is still far more reliable than many other modes. Some of the digital modes are as good or better, I grant you, but for a basic station, the code is still there when most everything else is unreadable. On CW, the bands open up earlier and stay open for DX longer. You can add a good half hour to either side of the gray line. A DX station that is unreadable on SSB may be perfectly workable on CW. For me, that alone is enough reason to be proficient in using Morse.

In that same vein, if you are enjoying a nice QSO with someone and the band suddenly takes a dip, you can punch the rig's "CW" button and give the other OM a decent "73," ending the chat on a good note.

CW is legal anywhere on any amateur band on which you are licensed to operate. And on 30 meters—a darn fine band for some really interesting propagation—voice transmissions are NOT permitted.

Like to chase sporadic-E, tropospheric ducting, or other fun propagation on 10 meters or VHF/UHF? One way to tell if the bands are open is through beacon stations. I am not aware of any beacon stations that use any kind of voice identification or location information. They are almost all in the CW portion of the various bands. They use Mr. Morse's dits and dahs. How else will you know where they are or what their grid square is? Is 6 meters open to Europe or are you hearing a beacon a half mile down the road? They sound the same if you can't "break the code."

DX! Do I need to spell it out? DX-peditions don't always use RTTY or PSK31. They almost always do CW. Because of the reasons mentioned in (2) above, and because contacts are made and completed quicker in many cases on CW than on phone, your odds of working that DX are greater. Of course, there seems to be far more stations calling the DX on SSB, too, so that in itself raises your odds of nabbing the guy on CW. Sure, you can learn just enough code to recognize your call and "599," but can you be sure that station you worked was the one you saw on the DX cluster if you can't read his call sign? And what if he gives QSL info, switches the split from what was spotted, or moves to another frequency or band and lets everyone know—in CW? Happens all the time. DX station on 20 meters says, "QSY 40M 7007 UP 3," yet guys keep calling him on the old frequency for half an hour after he disappears.

So, the only operating you do is through VHF or UHF repeaters, using FM. You don't need to know no stinkin' code! But what if you hear a distant repeater? That beepity-beep you hear on most repeaters is its ID...in CW. How can you possibly know which repeater it is or where it is located, beyond making a guess? Ever travel? Take your rig with you? How will you know which repeater you are hitting or hearing? Maybe you can find it in the directory or maybe not. In urban areas, you may be in range of several

Why You Should Learn Dah Dit Dah Dit... *continued from page 3*

repeaters on the same pair—each with a different access tone—so which tone do you use if you can't tell which repeater it is when it identifies?

Simplicity. Nothing exotic about turning on and off a carrier. If you take your radio camping, on a cruise, on a business trip, it is much simpler and more effective to use CW. Add the element of QRP and you can operate about anywhere, from a bicycle to a bass boat, with basic battery power and compromise antenna. And a key, of course.

It takes less spectrum. More stations can comfortably occupy the same slice of a band when everyone is on CW rather than SSB or FM. And that's by a factor of about 13—150 hertz for CW compared to more than 2000 hertz for SSB in many cases. It is easier to filter out adjacent channel interference and still maintain intelligibility, too.

It's just plain fun! I have tried many modes and I enjoy them all (less digital since I'm pounding on a keyboard about ten hours a day and don't want to even see one when I get to the shack!), but I keep coming back to the joy and simplicity of Morse. There is a certain element of knowing something not everybody else knows, too. It's like our own double-top-secret language. And you meet the nicest people there. I would have hated to have missed all the great QSOs I have had down through the years just because I decided I couldn't memorize and recognize 26 letters, 10 numbers and a few pro-signs!

I understand that some people have greater aptitude for learning the code than others. It is more a chore than a pleasure for some. But here are a few tips that might make it less drudgery and more fun, based on my experience teaching many people the silly stuff down through the years:

Learn the code by sound, NOT by dots and dashes. "A" is "di-dah," NOT "dot dash." "B" is "dah-di-di-dit," NOT "dash dot dot dot." Learn how each character SOUNDS, not how many dashes and dots there are and in what order. That is especially true of the numbers. There is a temptation to count the numbers of dits and dahs. Your mind works much better if "6" is instantly "dah-di-di-di-dit," not a dash and four dots.

Learn the easy ones first—E, T, I, M—and quickly start making words. Soon "the" (and other common words)

will no longer be three Morse characters but a single sound.

If possible, have the characters you are listening to sent at higher speed but with pauses in between. That is, have code sent at three words per minute (fifteen characters in a minute...one every four seconds or so) but the individual characters sent as if everything was at 12 or 15 words per minute. As you speed up, the individual characters will still sound the same except the spaces between each will be shorter.

Receive the code at a speed just a bit faster than you can comfortably copy. Just like with exercise, push yourself and you will get quicker, longer lasting results.

Don't get flustered if you can't write down every single character on paper—"solid copy." Do the best you can. If you try to go back and fill in gaps or linger too long, you miss a whole bunch of other characters.

When you are able to understand the code faster than you are able to write it down, start taking notes and do not try to jot down every character. You cannot write down every word of human speech in a conversation, either, unless you are a court reporter using a special machine! Those who copy fast code are doing it in their heads, not on paper.

In your head, convert everything you see—road signs, soup can labels, letters on the TV screen—to Morse code. Try to get the word "sent" in your head (or out loud if you are alone or don't mind being thought a lunatic) before you pass the sign or the commercial is off the TV.

Work with a friend or partner who is also learning CW. It makes it more fun, and especially if you compete to see who is the first to get to 5 WPM and each additional benchmark.

Practice. Practice! PRACTICE! There are few things you can learn without repetition. A good golf swing? A foreign language? How to play a musical instrument? How to type? You cannot devote five minutes a week to any worthy learning activity and expect to be successful. Set aside practice time each day. There is a great boost to self-esteem when you prove to yourself that you can do something that others perceive to be difficult—or dang near impossible!

Why You Should Learn Dah Dit Dah Dit... *continued from page 4*

There are plenty of good sources of code to copy. WIAW sends practice every day on multiple frequencies, and when you get good, you can copy official bulletins sent via CW, too. Visit www.arrl.org or see QST for times and frequencies. Or tune to the low end of 40 or 20 meters or anywhere on 30 meters. With today's electronic keyers, most code is well sent and easy to copy. You will find speeds from tediously slow to a tinkly whir...like a cricket on crack!

I believe there are two primary reasons people do not want to learn Morse code. One is they do not see the need or have any particular interest, and especially now that the requirement for licensing is gone. I hope my reasons in this article will be some impetus for you to give it a try. If not, that is okay, too, but you are missing some fun.

The other reason is that people simply think they will never be able to make sense out of the stuff. That they lack whatever brain cell is needed to make “di-di-dit” into “S.” That is not true. Anyone can learn the code and be proficient in its use. Anyone! It is a mindset that defeats some folks before they even try. If you are convinced you are the lone exception, there is nothing I can do to change your mind. But if you take the attitude that “Heck, I’m not going to let this stuff beat me!” then you are well on your way to increasing your enjoyment of the hobby.

I hope you will. I would love to meet you on 30 meters one night. •

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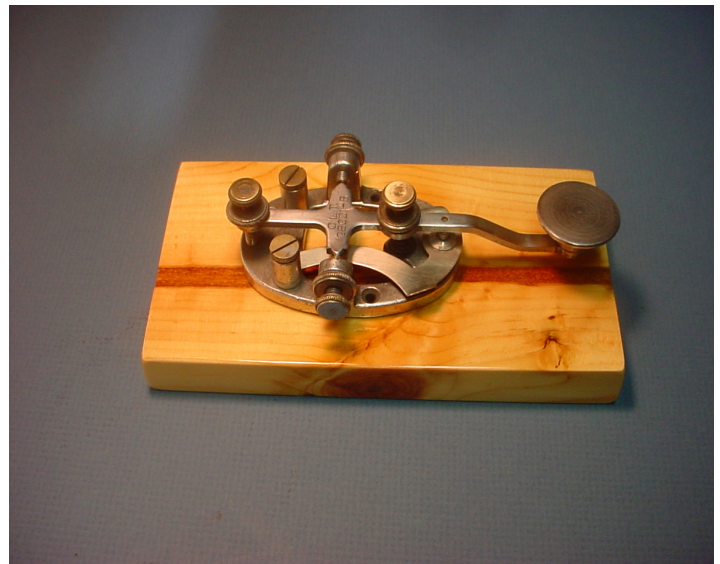


PHOTO BY: GREGG MULDER/W8LZG



I was first licensed as an amateur radio operator in 1961 at the age of 13 as WN4BDW...later WA4BDW, and recently celebrated my 50th year in the hobby. I changed my call sign to N4KC in the 1970s when I got my Extra Class license. I enjoyed a 22-year career in broadcasting and was twice named BILLBOARD magazine's "Broadcast Personality of the Year." I later worked for a company that developed software for radio, TV and ad agencies, then spent 4 years with Arbitron, the company that provides audience rating information for radio broadcasters. In May 2012, I retired as vice-president of advertising and marketing communications for Education Corporation of America (www.ecacolleges.com). We own and operate Virginia College (www.vc.edu), Golf Academy of America (www.golfacademy.edu), New England College of Business and Finance (www.necb.com), and Ecotech Institute (www.ecotechinstitute.com). The company is headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama. I'm also an author with over thirty books published.

Odds and Ends...

2015 "Hog Roast For The Hams"

Sixty-five people attended CMARC's first annual "HOG ROAST FOR THE HAMS" which occurred on Saturday, October 3rd! Dan/KD8YDE and Vicki, who sponsored the event, graciously invited everyone to their spacious 20-acre homestead in Laingsburg, Michigan, which served as the perfect setting for the occasion. Regarding the "star of the show", after the 265 pound hog was roasted on the spit, it yielded 176 pounds of delicious meat for the barbecued pulled pork sandwiches we all enjoyed. In addition, there were many other wonderful dishes and desserts provided by the guests of the potluck, making it impossible to leave the event hungry! Combine the fantastic food fest with the enjoyable conversation and good fellowship and you end up with one GREAT success!

Thank you, Dan and Vicki for a wonderful day!

We hope to see EVERYONE at NEXT year's "HOG ROAST FOR THE HAMS"!



Attention Sweepstakes Operators!

The XYL and I will be visiting with son Jordon (harmonic #2) KC8QYU in Minot, North Dakota the 1st week in November. I plan to operate CW Sweeps "Field Day" style during the contest weekend, with a couple of dipoles thrown up in the trees. I did a /portable operation from there in July to "work out the bugs". I applied for , and was granted Special Callsign " N 0 T " for the week I will be there. I'll also be on the air before and after the Sweeps for a few days, Special attention being paid to QRP ops and hometown folks out there. Hope to hear you "on the air" from the prairie !

73 de N 0 T (WB8LZG)





Equipment for Sale

Please call Gregg Mulder/WB8LZG **AFTER 5PM** at 517-646-6257. Offers are accepted!

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1) Hamarlund SX117 Receiver (with clock)
<i>Unknown Condition</i> | \$75 |
| 1) Kenwood TM231 2-meter Mobile
<i>Works Great</i> | \$50 |
| 1) Kenwood 12-amp Power Supply
<i>Works Great</i> | \$50 |
| 1) Kenwood 2-meter Hand Held
<i>Works Great</i> | \$40 |
| 1) Icom 2m/440 Hand Held
<i>Works great but needs new battery</i> | \$60 |

Remaining Items from the Estate of Louis Larche/KD8BWL

The following items of equipment from the station of Louis Larche / KD8BWL, SK, are still available. Listed is the suggested price for each. Please make an offer if you are interested. All the proceeds will go to Barb, Louie's XYL. Contact me at 517-896-3570 or kfaiver@sbcglobal.net. -- Ken / W8HNI

- Kenwood SP-230 ham speaker, with audio filters -- **\$75**
- Kenwood AT-230 antenna tuner, for use with TS-830, TS-530, etc. 200 Watts, 1.8 to 30 MHz, 20 & 200 watt scales -- **\$120**
- Kenwood VFO-230 digital synthesized VFO, for split frequency. 20 Hz steps. 5 memories. Designed to connect to TS-830s or TS-530 -- **\$135**
- Radioshack HTX-420 Handheld FM transceiver -- 3 to 4 watts -- 2M & 70cm -- with AC adapter. Includes electronic compass. (needs new battery). -- **\$65**
- Radioshack Pro-97 Scanner Receiver -- triple trunking -- 1000 channel. With AC adapter. (battery not included). Good condition -- **\$75**
- LDG Electronics AT-200 antenna tuner -- 200 watt, 1.8 to 30 MHz, 20 & 200 watt scales, with operating manual -- **\$150**
- RCA VWV-120A voltmeter -- AC power line monitor -- **\$12**
- RL Drake 1525 EM microphone -- mike with touch tone ham keypad -- **\$5**
- MFJ-418 Morse Code Tutor -- w/ LCD display, pocket sized, for learning (improving) CW skills -- **\$40**
- Low-pass filter -- no specifications -- **\$3**
- 3-shelf wooden structure, designed to hold ham equipment (no charge. Come and pick up)
- Two antenna towers: (no charge. Come and remove. Let her know soon, or she will have them removed for scrap.)
 - triangular steel (lower) and aluminum (upper) -- estimated 28 feet. Tilt-over base.
 - triangular aluminum -- estimated 12 feet

Rolling yer own DX-pedition here at home, Part I

By Gregg Mulder, WB8LZG

The beginnings of a memorable operating experience.



I've been hooked on "CW Sweeps" now for abt 35 years. My good friend and contest mentor, W8EKR, referred to the ARRL CW Sweepstakes as "the granddaddy of all contests". Sweeps draws the best ops in North America. Challenging and fast paced fun from the git go!

Good way to get your code speed up in a hurry. It has the most information in the exchange of any of the other contests. Some of it is really interesting too. Like the "year first Licensed", the Precedence, which is the power and station class, and of course all those sections. The thought occurred to me last Sweepstakes. How cool it would be to go to one of those "rare" sections to operate /P for Sweeps! You know the ones, PAC, AK, NWT, Yukon Territory, and N. Dakota. North Dakota? Come on. How are they even on that list? "Not a lot of Hams up there in the prairie."

Well sometimes, your wishes DO come true. A few years ago my son Jordon, KC8QYU, moved to Minot, N.D. and bought a home there. I ran the idea of doing CW Sweeps by him and he said "come on up". Preparation. Wow, this was the real thing. Going several thousand miles away to operate a contest, was a big undertaking. Lots of planning. This was much more than just a FD or camping trip QRP style. No running back home for something I forgot.

The XYL and I were visiting Jordon in July, so I thought I'd try a "dry run" to see if we could get some dipoles up high in the trees. Here is what I did to ease into this. I sent an Icom 706mkII, and a Vibroplex key ahead UPS. Then I made two brand new dipoles, one for 20m, and one for 40m. I attached 75' RG58u coax to the feedpoint and raised them here at home to "prune" them to resonance. I wanted to be sure that I wouldn't get any troubles once

in North Dakota. Then I packaged the dipoles and several rolls of very strong nylon line, smaller twine, some fishing line, and a few 1 oz. sinkers. What else to put in? Hmmmm I just know I'm forgetting something!

Oh yes, station accessories. A coax switch, several, coax adaptors, a couple of 3' coax cables, logbook, spare power cable and key cable. Then sent this UPS ahead also. We just had to get on the plane. Nothing to it!

The big day came and we boarded the plane in Lansing, with anticipation of a new adventure. Fortunately, the flights were uneventful and went quickly. We were soon standing on the prairie! After all the "hugs n kisses", we were finally at my son's new home. We had an enjoyable evening together, catching up on the "latest happenings".

Next day I dug into the radio equipment. Good thing I double boxed the equipment, the outside box on the coax shipment was in very sad condx. I could "see" wire. As I opened it up, I hoped none of the coax had been cut. It was intact. Good, the gear all arrived in one piece.

Now to survey the trees. I located some unsuspecting limbs, and exercised my fisherman's prowess by quickly looping a few lines in the trees. Then hoisting up the center and tying off the ends inverted V style. Not bad, got the centers of both up about 30'. Not as high as I wanted, but the trees weren't any taller! Jordon passed me the feedlines through the window the "temporary shack" and gently sealed the window again. I attached the cables to the back of the rig within a few seconds and turned on the power in anticipation. Wow, signals on 40 were perty good. I quickly snagged a "local" station in Colorado. "The 40m works" I said to myself, and switched the feedlines to the 20m, I heard and worked a JA1 right off! Hmmmm I thought, "It's a bit easier to hit Japan from here vs back home. In the next few days during the early hours of the morning, I filled up a couple pages in the log, getting a feel for how the aerials were playing. All looked ready for SWEEPS! •

Stay tuned for Part II coming in November!
73, Gregg/WB8LZG

Another One Bites The Dust

By Gregg Mulder, WB8LZG

A look at refurbishing an old Vibroplex.



Well it happened again. I wasn't looking for it, didn't need it, but I went and bought another old Vibroplex Key. I spied it at the Lansing Swap-fest just sorta calling to me. It was obviously stored somewhere damp and dank because it had a bad case of rust and pitting in the chrome.

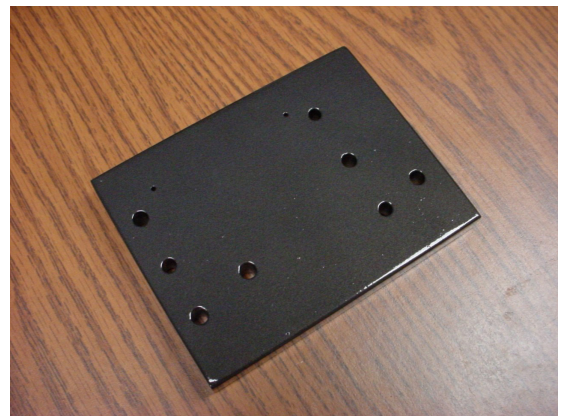
After a bit of haggling the key came home with me. I figured, at the worst, I could use it for a "parts key". I attempted to clean it up a bit to see if she would "polish up", but the rust was too far advanced for a good finish. I'd been painting some key bases as of late to refurb some Vibroplex's with good results, so I figured I'd "give 'er a try". I thought about having it re-chromed, but "no, too much money", and the object was to "keep it cheap".

I hated to "sand off" the chrome, but oh well, here goes! Once the rust spots were sanded out, I gave it 2 coats of Rustolium™ black hammered finish paint. The rest of the chrome parts polished up OK with a bit of rubbing compound and "elbow grease." Not quite as perty as some other key refurb's I've done, but this one was in very poor condition to start with. The end result is a keeper. It will make a good "travel key". One I won't worry about too much if it gets a "ding" or two during use.

The final result is a nice looking refurb, that has a very FB "feel". This one may be "gifted" to an aspiring CW op. Hope you enjoy the pictures. •



This is the "before" picture, after a cleanup



After 2 coats of paint



This is the "before" picture, after a cleanup



CMARC Board Meeting

September 11, 2015

President Julie McLain/KB8ZXR called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm with the following board members in attendance: Vice President Tom Rocheleau/WA8WPI, Secretary Jane Hosford/KC8FSK, Treasurer Jerry Waite/KD8GLN, Director Don McLain/KB8RAD, Director Chris Ranes/NS8Q and Under 22 Director Sam Fitzgerald/N8FPR.

- Jerry/KD8GLN paid \$15.00 for a 3'x5' flag for the Club to do the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Sam/N8FPR will hold the flag while we recite the Pledge.
- There are no new silent keys.
- There are no new cards and flowers report.
- Club directory-Dan/KD8YDE said that his computer crashed and he is waiting for Digi-Link to get stuff off his computer.
- Wayne West/AB8UG is our speaker for tonight, presenting information about the "Independent Repeater Association, W8IRA/R".
- Dale Williams/WA8EFK is scheduled for the October meeting
- Chris/NS8Q has been in contact with someone to make a new CMARC logo that also includes the ARRL logo. It will cost five dollars and Tom/WA8WPI said that he would pay the five dollars.
- Tom/WA8WPI made a motion, seconded by Chris/NS8Q and approved by all that the logo get done between the cost of \$5.00 - \$25.00.
- 501(c)3 needs to be finished. Need to find out who qualifies for 501(c)3.
- Need to look through past Scopes to find out exactly what the Humphrey's fund was created for. Julie/KB8ZXR asked Jane/KC8FSK to take care of this.
- Need to organize the Clubroom.
- Need someone to take over as SATERN unit leader for the Salvation Army.
- Jamboree is the third weekend in October 16th – 18th.
- November sweepstakes is the first and third weekend.
- Matt Beha's/N8BPI fell and broke three bones in his back.
- Morse code class will start in October and go for six weeks. On Tuesdays from 7-9 pm, October 6th, October 13th, October 20th, October 27th, November 3rd and November 10th. Jerry/KD8GLN to ask the Salvation Army if we may use a larger classroom for the Morse code classes.
- Jerry/KD8GLN no longer wishes to be on the Board after this year. John/KD8NNQ has said he would be willing to be on the Board and Ron/WD8BCS has expressed a desire to be on the Board.
- We need to review the By-laws before the October meeting in regards to nominations and voting.
- Julie/KB8ZXR received an email from Bob/K8ZAP thanking the Board for doing the Pledge of Allegiance, and Chris/NS8Q doing a good job with the Scope.
- An email from Tim Jurmo/AC8NI dated September 11. Tonight @ 8:00 pm, WMNI SATERN will go on the air for 24 hours straight, to commemorate the origination of SATERN.
- Motion to adjourn made by Don/KB8RAD, seconded by Jerry/KD8GLN and approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Hosford/KC8FSK - Secretary

CMARC Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2015

President Julie/KB8ZXR brought the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

We do have name tags for everyone if you don't have your own, so please use, so we know who everyone is.

We started the meeting by doing the Pledge of Allegiance. Sam/N8FPR, our Under 22 Director, held the flag.

The date September 11th has been designated as Patriot Day, a national day of observance and remembrance.

There was an extended moment of silence for the victims of 9/11.

SILENT KEY REPORT: None.

- A moment of silence for our silent keys.

The Board was introduced to everyone: Vice President Tom Rocheleau/WA8WPI, Treasurer Jerry Waite/KD8GLN, Secretary Jane Hosford/KC8FSK, Director Chris Ranes/NS8Q, Director Don McLain/KB8RAD and Under 22 Director Sam Fitzgerald/N8FPR.

ATTENDANCE:

- There were 45 people in attendance.
- Visitors included Mary Tillitson, Michael Pedersen, Wayne West/AB8UG, Vicki Dembinski, and Kylie - granddaughter of Bob/KB8DQQ and Leota/KD8SQD Strobel.

NEW LICENSES, UPGRADES AND VANITY CALLS: None

CARDS AND FLOWERS REPORT: None.

INTERESTING DX CONTACTS: None

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES: NEW HAMS GET ONE YEAR FREE MEMBERSHIP

- CMARC dues should be sent to Jerry/KD8GLN and LCRDRA dues to Julie/KB8ZXR

CONTESTS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Paul/KB8YQZ goes to a ham club in Florida and they always start the meeting by doing the pledge of allegiance.
- Paul suggested that maybe that is something our Club could do, so we are going to start doing it also.

UNDER 22 REPORT: None.

50/50: Debbie/KD8YUX won \$21.50.

Motion for break was made by Kenny/N8BVV, seconded by Jerry/KD8GLN, and approved at 7:52 pm.

PROGRAM:

- Wayne West/AB8UG will be presenting information about the "Independent Repeater Association, W8IRA/R".
- The Independent Repeater Association (IRA) maintains several linked system covering a very wide area, mainly along the western side of Lower Michigan, from the Indiana border to the Upper Peninsula.
- Our speaker was paid \$25.00 and he said he was going to turn it over to the IRA link system.
- Anyone wishing to donate to the IRA can send them to the PO Box 8122, Kentwood, MI 49518.

Motion to adjourn made by Don/KB8RAD, seconded by John/KD6KCX, and approved.

With all business concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Dan/KD8YDE asked to use the Club's canopies for the pig roast at this place on October 3rd.

A motion was made by Don/KB8RAD, seconded by Tom/WA8WPI, and approved that Dan/KD8YDE may borrow the Club's canopies on October 3rd.

Respectfully submitted,

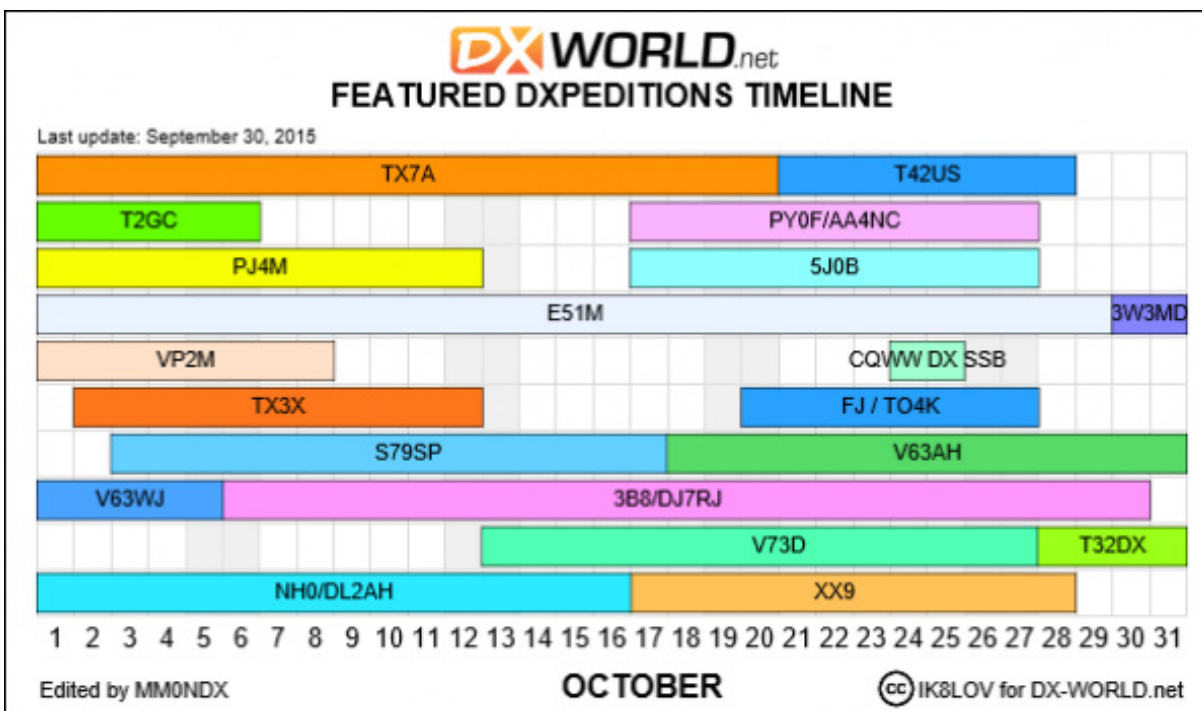
Jane Hosford/KC8FSK - Secretary

The DX Corner

By Col McGowan, MMoNDX

Each month, Max/IK8LOV and Col/MM0NDX create a little diagram showing that month's DX operations around the world. This is the chart for October. Please feel free to visit www.dx-world.net for information on these or other DXpeditions. Next month, we will continue with our regular format.

*73 gud DX,
Chris/NS8Q*





ARRL VEC

"PRACTICE AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS"
Sponsored by the "Ingham County VE Group"
VE Julie McLain KB8ZXR

Technician Class 2014 Pool

1.) Question T2A06 - What must an amateur operator do when making on-air transmissions to test equipment or antennas?

- A. Make test transmissions only after 10:00 p.m. local time
- B. State the purpose of the test during the test procedure
- C. Properly identify the transmitting station
- D. Notify the FCC of the test transmission

2.) Question T8A11 - What is the approximate maximum bandwidth required to transmit a CW signal?

- A. 150 Hz
- B. 1000 Hz
- C. 2.4 kHz
- D. 15 kHz

3.) Question T8C06 - How is access to an IRLP node accomplished?

- A. By using DTMF signals
- B. By using CTCSS tone codes
- C. By entering the proper Internet password
- D. By obtaining a password which is sent via voice to the node

General Class 2015 Pool

1.) Question G8B08 - Why is it important to know the duty cycle of the mode you are using when transmitting?

- A. To aid in tuning your transmitter
- B. Some modes have high duty cycles which could exceed the transmitter's average power rating.
- C. To allow time for the other station to break in during a transmission
- D. All of these choices are correct

2.) Question G1B12 - Who or what determines "good engineering and good amateur practice" as applied to the operation of an amateur station in all respects not covered by the Part 97 rules?

- A. The IEEE
- B. The FCC
- C. The ITU
- D. The Control Operator

3.) Question G9D08 - Why is a Beverage antenna not used for transmitting?

- A. Its impedance is too low for effective matching
- B. It has high losses compared to other types of antennas
- C. It has poor directivity
- D. All of these choices are correct

Extra Class 2012 Pool

1.) Question E1B02 - Which of the following factors might cause the physical location of an amateur station apparatus or antenna structure to be restricted?

- A. The location is of geographical or horticultural importance
- B. The location is of environmental importance or significant in American history, architecture, or culture
- C. The location is in an ITU zone designated for coordination with one or more foreign governments
- D. The location is near an area of political conflict

2.) Question E7E14 - What is meant by direct conversion when referring to a software defined receiver?

- A. Incoming RF is converted to the IF frequency by rectification to generate the control voltage for a voltage controlled oscillator
- B. Incoming RF is mixed to "baseband" for analog-to-digital conversion and subsequent processing
- C. Software is converted from source code to object code during operation of the receiver
- D. Software is generated in machine language, avoiding the need for compilers

3.) Question E9A12 - Which of the following factors determine ground losses for a ground-mounted vertical antenna operating in the 3-30 MHz range?

- A. Soil conductivity
- B. Distance from the transmitter
- C. The standing-wave ratio
- D. Take-off angle

Questions and Answers Copied from ARRL's "Practice Amateur Radio Exams"

found at: <http://www.qrz.com/hamtest/>

ANSWERS Technician: 1-C; 2-A; 3-A General: 1-B; 2-B; 3-B Extra: 1-B; 2-B; 3-A



TEA TIME LADIES' DAYS

October 13th – Jane Hosford KC8FSK's Birthday!!

LADIES TEA TIME LUNCHEON



Our next Luncheon will be held on Saturday, October 17th at 12:30pm and we'll be meeting at Falsetta's Casa Nova which is located at 138 S. Waverly Road in Lansing. I hope you'll be able to attend, as it's been quite a while since we've all been able to get together. Please be sure to RSVP me by Friday, October 16th so I can have your spot reserved!

As a reminder ... we won't be having a Luncheon in November as we're usually very busy making preparations for our Thanksgiving holidays. However, be sure to circle Saturday, December 5th (11am) on your calendars and then plan to attend our annual Ladies Tea Time Christmas Party which is always a lot of fun!!

If you want to find details on ANY upcoming Ladies Tea Time event so you're able to plan ahead, be sure to check out our Ladies Page on CMARC's website at www.centralmiarc.com

~Julie McLain, KB8ZXR~
Ladies Tea Time Net & Luncheon Coordinator
(517) 694-0812 or KB8ZXR@aol.com



THE LADIES TEA TIME NET!

Please join me every Tuesday evening at 7pm on the 145.39 Lansing-area repeater (100 Hz PL) for the "Ladies Tea Time Net". The Net can also be accessed via the EchoLink *DODROPIN* Conference Server (Node ID# 355800). The main purpose of this Net is to get our Lady Hams out on the air each week, having fun as they visit together. And for those Ladies without a Ham license...you can STILL check in "Third Party", as long as your licensed husband or friend checks in first. Remember, we always look forward to having our Gentlemen join us for a fun time, too... AFTER the "Ladies Only" portion of the Net!! So, pour yourself a nice cup of tea, key up the mic and join me for the "Ladies Tea Time Net"...I'll be listening for you!!

73, Julie KB8ZXR - Net Control

Greater Lansing Nets

The “**Central Michigan Slow Scan TV Net**” meets every Sunday evening from 7:00- 8:30pm on the 145.39 repeater (PL 100 Hz), with Net Coordinator Carl Canfield/K8YHH. EVERYONE is welcome to join in and have fun learning and using this interesting and useful mode of communication. Other digital modes will be explored from time to time. For more information, call Carl at: (517) 755 6627.

The “**Ladies Tea Time Net**” meets every Tuesday evening at 7pm on the 145.39 repeater (PL 100 Hz), with Net Coordinator Julie McLain/KB8ZXR, and can now also be found on the *DODROPIN* EchoLink Conference Server (ID# 355800)! Everyone is welcome to check in—even all you guys!! This Net has been around now for over SEVEN YEARS (since July 3, 2007), so let’s keep it going and growing!!

The “**Quarter Century Wireless Association Net**” also meets every Tuesday night but at 8pm and on the 146.70 repeater (PL 107.2 Hz), with Net Coordinator Don Tillitson/WB8NUS. Be sure to stop by after Julie’s Net and say “Hello!”

The “**Mid-Michigan Information & Trader’s Net**” meets every Wednesday evening at 7:00pm on the 145.39 repeater (PL 100 Hz), with Net Coordinator Julie McLain/KB8ZXR. This Net has been around now for over FIVE YEARS (since November 11, 2009) and is still growing!! Be sure to join Don for a time of FUN, FELLOWSHIP, and INFORMATION!! There will be helpful Ham-related information to share from both Net Control and our check-ins, time for questions and answers, and “Trader’s Net” style on-the-air swapping of Ham-related equipment throughout the Net. Sounds like a good time to me!!

ALL are welcome on these nets, so be sure to check in to show your support. And as with all Nets, 3rd party check-ins are welcome, but must have Control Operator present at check-in time.

CMARC Officers and Appointees

President

Julie McLain, KB8ZXR
(517) 694-0812

Vice President / Webmaster
Tom Rocheleau, WA8WPI

Secretary / Cards & Flowers
Jane Hosford, KC8FSK

**Treasurer /
Salvation Army Liaison**
Jerry Waite, KD8GLN
(517) 882-5406

Director / Club Contact
Don McLain, KB8RAD
(517) 694-0812

Director / Scope Editor
Chris Ranes, NS8Q
(517) 487-8376

Under 22 Director
Sam Fitzgerald, N8FRP

Club Historian
William Cote, WD8NYW

Antenna Projects Chairman
Gregg Mulder, WB8LZG

Lansing ARPSC Liaison
Jim Hannahs, KC8QWH

Public Relations Manager
Brian Wellwood, KD8ONC

QSL/Awards Manager
Don DeFeyer, KC8CY
(517) 641-4533

Youth Liaison
Russ Fitzgerald, N8FZ

Photographers
Kenneth Hazlett, N8BVV
(517) 348-5513
Phillip Woodward, KD8ZZK
(517) 803-7081

Meetings
**Held Monthly on the second
Friday of the month at:**
Salvation Army-Capital Area,
701 W. Jolly Rd, Lansing
at 7:00 PM. Board Meeting
begins at 6:30 pm.

CMARC Calls:
W8MAA & W8PLP

LCDRA Officers and Appointees

President

John Imeson, N8JI
(517) 449-1517

Vice President
Don Tillitson, WB8NUS
(517) 321-2004

Secretary
Ron Harger, WD8BCS
wd8bcs@arrl.net

Treasurer
Jeff Oberg, KB8SXX

Director
Jan Bradfield, KC8BFB
(517) 202-1779

Director
Don McLain
(517) 694-0812

Director
Jim Harvey, KA8DDQ
(517) 882-5796

Membership Chair
Julie McLain, KB8ZXR
(517) 694-0812

Repeater Trustee
Dennis Boone, KB8ZQZ

Meetings
**Held Quarterly on the third
Thursday of the month at:**
Fire Station #48,
Marshall St, Lansing
at 7:00 PM.

LCDRA Call:
W8BCI

The Scope is a monthly joint publication of The Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club and the Lansing Civil Defense Repeater Association.

Please send all articles, classified ads, or other Information to the editor, Chris Ranes, NS8Q, at cmarcscope@gmail.com.

The deadline for each issue is midnight on the 20th of the preceding month.

Thunder Bay Amateur Radio Club

Find us on the web at:
<http://ThunderBayARC.org>



An ARRL
affiliated
event

Alpena's 2nd Annual Swap meet!
October 10th, 2015
9:00 AM until Noon

See <http://ThunderBayARC.org> for updates and details on the Swap meet.

Held this year at the Alpena Mall, 2380 US-23

Make a Fall trip to Alpena, Michigan. Take in a great Swap and see some of the other sites and events in the Alpena area on that weekend.

<http://lighthousefestival.org/> <http://www.alpenashipwrecktours.com/> <http://thunderbay.noaa.gov/>

Tables only \$5.00

Email W1UP@ThunderBayARC.org to reserve.

Send payment to:

TBARC
PO Box 764
Alpena, MI 49707

There is no entrance fee but, we would like everyone to register. A donation plus registration qualifies you for door prizes. You must be present to win a door prize.

Amateur Radio Demonstrations during the morning

Bring the Family. The Alpena Mall and the Alpena Area offers a great time for all. Coffee and snacks can be purchased at Cabin Creek Coffee in the Mall. Fast food restaurants within walking distance.

See <http://www.alpenamall.com/> for information on stores in the mall.



Saturday October 17th

Fellowship Reformed Church 4200 E. Apple Ave.
Muskegon, MI 49442

General admission 8 AM to Noon

Tickets \$5.00 in advance, \$6.00 at the door.

**FREE
PARKING**



**FOOD &
DRINK**

EVENTS & CLINICS
SEVERAL DIFFERENT CLASSES
AND VE TESTING

Muskegoncolortourhamfest.com

**DOOR
PRIZES**

TALK-IN
146.820 PL 94.8

PRE-REGISTRATION / VENDORS

VENDOR SETUP

FRIDAY 10/16 6PM TO 8PM

SATURDAY 10/17 6AM TO 8AM

NAME/ COMPANY _____ CALL SIGN _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE (____) _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

_____ TABLE \$10.00 EACH _____ ELECTRIC REQUESTED, AS AVAILABLE.

_____ ADVANCE TICKETS \$5.00 TOTAL AMOUNT INCLUDED _____

SEND CHECKS PAYABLE TO MCECS P.O. BOX 386 FRUITPORT, MI 49415

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT JIM DURAM @ 231-638-7010

33RD Annual Kalamazoo HamFest and Amateur Radio Swap and Shop



Sunday October 18, 2015

Kalamazoo County Expo Center & Fairgrounds

2900 Lake Street, Kalamazoo, MI

Open 8 Am to Noon

Vendor Setup 6am Sunday with Saturday hours available

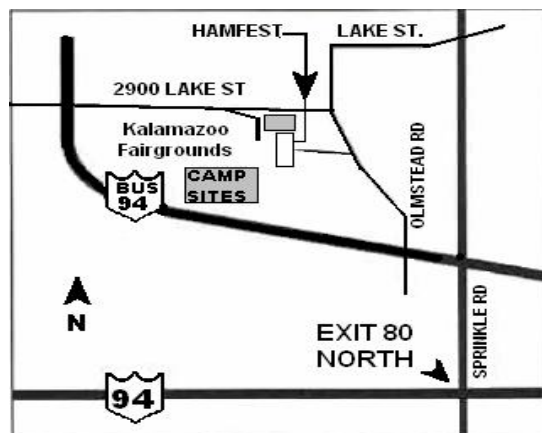
Sponsored by:

Kalamazoo Amateur Radio Club

Southwest Michigan Amateur Radio Team

- TALK-IN 147.040 (pl 94.8) K8KZO REPEATER
- Tickets \$5.00
- Over 20,000 square feet of selling area
- Free Trunk Sales Spaces Available
- Featuring the Kalamazoo Makers Guild
- Door Prizes
- Forums
- Amateur Radio License Testing at 10 AM
- DXCC and WAS QSL checking
- Scouts in uniform admitted free
- Campsites available w. electric & water

(See <http://www.kalcounty.com/parks/activities.htm> for campsite information.)



For more information see our web-site at: <http://KalamazooHamFest.Org> ,
Email us at : Info@KalamazooHamfest.Org or call us at (269) 205-3560 and leave a message!

Name/Company _____ Call Sign _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone () _____

Email Address _____

___ Hamfest tickets @\$5.00 Ea. \$ _____ To order send check with this order

___ Tables 8' @ \$12.00 Ea. \$ _____ form and SASE to:

___ Tables 8' w/power @\$22.00 Ea. \$ _____

___ Send Saturday setup information

Total Amount enclosed \$ _____

Kalamazoo Hamfest

PO Box 33

Richland, MI 49083-0033

(Please note: Orders received after September 30, 2015 will
be held for pickup at the door!)

****An ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest****



The 30th Annual USECA Hamfest 2015

Sunday, October 25, 2015 8 AM - 2 PM
Vendors will be allowed in at 6:30 AM



United Food & Commercial Workers 876 Hall
876 Horace Brown Drive, Madison Heights, MI 48071
(2 blocks south of 13 Mile Road between Stephenson Highway and John R Road)
GPS Coordinates 42.516818, -83.113124
Talk-in on the USECA repeater 147.180+ 100 Hz PL

New & Used Sales
Radio test bench
VE Test Session
(9 AM - 10 AM)
Great Door Prizes
Food & Fun

Questions? Contact: Rob Lifton, NY8W at 248-716-8042 or
ny8w@arrl.net

Table Reservations with ticket Checks should be made payable to
USECA and sent with this form to: USECA Hamfest 2015, PO Box
46331 Mt. Clemens, MI 48046

Name _____ Call _____

Email _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

No. Tables _____ No. Tickets _____ Amount Enclosed _____

You will receive your tickets and table numbers on the day of the swap.
A ticket is required for admission. Tickets are \$5.00 each and tables are \$12.00
each. Tables should be reserved in advance.

DO NOT ATTACH ANYTHING TO THE WALLS!!

QSL card checking for DXCC is available. Forms need to be filled out in advance. Does
not include 160 meter. All other bands and ARRL awards are covered.

VE Testing 9 AM - 10 AM

Pleade contact Alex, NF8X at nf8x@arrl.net to pre-register or for questions. Pre-
registration is encouraged, but not required. Please bring \$14.00 cash along with
photocopies of any existing license or CSCEs. Originals will not be accepted. Two forms
of ID are required, with at least one being a photo ID. You will also need to provide your
Social Security or FRN.

Show Your Support for Amateur Radio and Join CMARC & LCDRA Today!



JOIN TODAY!

Central Michigan Amateur
Radio Club, Inc.

As a licensed Amateur, you can **sign up today** as a Full Member. As a Full Member of CMARC, you will receive voting rights and an annual subscription to 'The SCOPE'. This newsletter is filled with Club News, special interests and events.

Sign up today as an Associate Member and it includes an annual subscription to 'The SCOPE'. (no voting rights as an Associate Member)

New licensees are now eligible for a *one FREE year membership* at CMARC and **Under 18** licensees are *eligible for FREE membership!*

Name		Callsign
Address		City State
ZIP	Phone	Lic. Class
ARRL Member?	Birthday	Wedding Anniversary
Year 1 st Licensed	Please supply email for SCOPE mailing	

Full ☐ Associate ☐ New Licensee (1 yr free) ☐ Under 18 (free) ☐

Full Membership \$15 per calendar year
(must be a licensed Amateur to obtain a Full Membership)
Associate Membership \$5 per calendar year.

Please make your checks payable to "CMARC" and mail to:
Jerry Waite KD8GLN
2816 Cabot Dr
Lansing MI 48911

JOIN TODAY!



Lansing Civil Defense
Repeater Association



Lansing Civil Defense
Repeater Association

Any Licensed Amateur can become a member of LCDRA for ONLY \$15 a year! Just sign up today and as a member, you'll receive an annual subscription to "The SCOPE", as well as, voting rights in the Association. All Hams under 18 yrs. are *eligible for FREE membership!*

LCDRA owns, operates and maintains four Lansing Area repeaters, and while use of the repeaters does NOT require membership in LCDRA or CMARC, your support is **very appreciated!!**

Name		Callsign
Address		City State
ZIP	Phone	Lic. Class
ARRL Member?	Birthday	Wedding Anniversary
Year 1 st Licensed	Please supply email for SCOPE mailing	

Membership in LCDRA is \$15.00 per calendar year
(Add a family member for only \$7.50 per person, per year.)
LCDRA maintains our four local repeaters
and your support is greatly appreciated!!
(Membership is not required to use our repeaters.)

Please make your checks payable to "LCDRA" And mail to:
Julie McLain KB8ZXR
4444 Sycamore St. #1Holt, MI 48842

Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club
P.O. BOX 27321
Lansing, MI 48909-7321



Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club

THE SCOPE



Lansing Civil Defense Repeater Association

centralmiarc.com

Serving Our Community Since 1921

lcdra.net

CMARC



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LCDRA



WWW.LCDRA.NET