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Quartermaster
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Swap Committee

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Chris Rose KB8UIH	(989) 832-7179
Linda Hodges KC8MUD	(989) 652-6213
John Wolters WB5PBL	(989) 832-9122
Larry Macklin N8CGP	(989) 631-7748
John Wolters WB5PBL	(989) 832-9122
Chris Rose KB8UIH	(989) 832-7179
Don Christensen W8WOJ	(989) 835-1307
Pat Mullet KC8RTW	(989) 828-6657
Michael Vecchitto KB4EIZ	(989) 832-3932
John Tallman KB8PGW	(989) 488-2305
John Tallman KB8PGW	(989) 488-2305
John McDonough WB8RCR	(989) 631-0178
Stan Rowe K6VWE	(989) 837-7252
Bill French AB8JF	(989) 835-5562
Pat Mullet KC8RTW	(989) 828-6657
Keith Johnson KB8SOE / Ch	(989) 488-4337
Michael Vecchitto KB4EIZ	(989) 832-3932
Jeff Mowery N8KS	(989) 488-4466
Pat Mullet KC8RTW	(989) 828-6657

LIFE MEMBERS

Jack W8PHG, Larry K8SQB, Don W8WOJ, Lee KC8ITI, Raleigh W8QOI (SK)

Midland County Public Service Net, Thursdays at 9 PM on 147.000 MHz PL Tone 103.5 +

Midland W8KEA Repeater — 147.000 MHz +
Midland W8KEA Digipeater — 145.090 MHz

Next ARES /RACES Meeting — Thursday February 4, 2010
Salvation Army Building, 330 Waldo 6:00 PM

Next CLUB MEETING — Thursday, January 7, 2010
Salvation Army Building, 330 Waldo 7:30 PM
Talk-in on 147.000 MHz +

January 2010

View from the Top of the Tower

Lee Hodges, KC8ITI

I hope the holiday season is everything you want it to be. May you find the items on your wish list under your tree and find time to spend with friends and family. The time leading up to the holidays is always stressful so remember to take some time for yourself.

Thanks to all of you for the warm reception you gave my presentation on working with small components at the last meeting. It just goes to show that if there is a will there is a way to accomplish our goals. I have the feeling that a lot of hams have given up the idea that they can build and experiment with circuits due to the microscopic size of the modern parts that are available. All it takes is patience and a bit of ingenuity. There is a lot of satisfaction in knowing how our circuits work and using equipment you've made yourself.

Thanks to everyone that helped with our participation in the Midland Santa Parade on November 21st. This is the first time that Linda and I have been part of this event with the club. I didn't realize how long the route was and how many people lined the

**When all else fails ...
...Amateur Radio!**



parade route. Now I understand why this is great way to get our club introduced to the public. I'm looking forward to next year.

Linda and I had a wonderful time

MARC MEETINGS

Chris Rose, KB8UIH, is in charge of special events and topics for the MARC monthly meetings. If you have any agenda items, or topics for the meetings, please contact Chris at (989) 832-7179, or via e-mail: kb8uih@arrl.net

COMMUNICATIONS

Pat Mullet, KC8RTW, is in charge of communications and publicity for the club. If you have any questions or ideas regarding these areas, please contact Pat at kc8rtw@arrl.net

EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

Saginaw - All future VE testing will be done on an appointment basis only.

Corunna - Contact Thomas Carpenter (517) 579-0599 ki8as@charter.net.

Bay City - All future VE testing will be done on an appointment basis only.

Isabella/Clare Counties - Contact Gus Glass, K8GUS at k8gus@arrl.net

With all examinations, your original license, a copy of that license, a second photo identification (drivers license, etc.) and a check or money order for \$15.00 made out to "ARRL/VEC" are required.

The address listed below gives testing sessions scheduled for Michigan. <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml?State=MI>

AUTOPATCH

All Midland Club members have autopatch privileges. If you do not have the instructions, contact N8CGP for a copy. Please do not pass on your copy.

SUBMISSIONS FOR NEWSLETTER

Contact Pat Mullet, KC8RTW at KC8RTW@arrl.net if you want to submit anything for the newsletter.

I need your items by the 15th of the month. Anything received after that may not make it into the newsletter for that month.

If you prefer to download the MARC newsletter from our web site, contact Keith, KB8SOE, at kb8soe@arrl.net.

Media Hits!

Have you seen or heard mention of the Midland Amateur Radio Club in the news or in the paper? If so, please forward it, or mention of it to either Pat, KC8RTW (kc8rtw@arrl.net) or Lee, KC8ITI (kc8iti@arrl.net)

at the MARC Christmas party on December 4th. The food was excellent. Thanks to Jim, KC8TQS for preparing our feast this year. Thanks also to Dorie, N8WTQ for getting the hall and arranging everything. I hope all of you that attended enjoyed the fellowship too.

Our VE session on December 5th was well attended. Dennis, N8ERF estimated that we might have five or so candidates. This was based on the number of people we had in our technician class and phone queries he had received. Well, we had 14 candidates appear to take exams. The details and statistics on the VE session appear elsewhere in this newsletter. Congratulations to all of the successful candidates. Enjoy your new licenses and your new privileges. Thanks to the all of the VEs that helped with this session. Your efforts are appreciated.

At the last meeting, we lent our financial support for the Michigan section's effort to have PRB-1 codified into the state of Michigan's zoning ordinances. The committee working on this effort is running in the red and to continue they need funding. Other clubs have been asked to lend a hand also. The committee has also requested that all hams contact their state officials to ask for their support of this measure. For more information contact Pat, KC8RTW or Denny, WB8PBT.

It looks like we have a lot of interest in more classes at all levels. The instruct-

or team will be arranging for locations and setting up schedules after the first of the year. Stay tuned for more information.

It is with sadness that I note that we lost one of our club members. Gary, K8MWD became a silent key on November 16th. Our sympathy goes out to Gary's family. Gary will be missed.

Once you get your 2010 calendars up, be sure to mark Thursday, April 1st as the date of our annual Skywarn training. Roger, KB8VSS has made arrangements to use the Law Enforcement Center for the evening. This is also a club meeting night so we will hold our business meeting after the Skywarn session.

That's enough for this month. I've been informed that I need to get busy and go Christmas shopping. That has to be one of my least favorite tasks at this time of the year. I'm a firm believer in the universal gift, cash. It's easy, fits in an envelope and always brings smiles. Maybe I can hide in the shack and participate in the ARRL 10 meter contest instead of going on the dread shopping trip. The New Year is set to enter the stage. It's time to reflect on the year past with all of the trials and triumphs it presented. The New Year will present its own challenges and opportunities for us as individuals and as a club. May we overcome the difficulties and enjoy the good times.

Best regards, Lee - KC8ITI

MARC Minutes

Linda Hodges, KC8MUD

The meeting was called to order by Lee KC8ITI at 7:40 P.M. with 28 in attendance. Introductions were made and a sign-in sheet was passed around. A motion was made by Bill N8FUZ to approve the minutes and seconded by Dorie N8WTQ. Passed

- Bill Lee from B & C Sports made a short presentation on what was available in club clothes. He left order forms with the club secretary and will be taking orders for the next few weeks. Any questions call Bill Lee at 989-8394537.

- Treasurer's report-John WB5PBL- Thank-you to John Tallman KB8PGW for your renewal. Members held a lengthy discussion about the phone patch system.

- EC/RO Report-John WB5PBL- good meeting and a good discussion. Possible grant money coming, packet station

in the works. John Hutcheson NX8A involved with search and rescue group. Small fire at Dow corning. January ARES/RACES meeting canceled.

- Classes-Bob W8LSS- Class finished with five students. The VE session will be on Saturday December 5th.

- Christmas Parade Dorie N8WTQ- Great time was had by those who participated. Special Thanks to Denny WD8BPT, Ryan KC8PMX and Bill AB8JF. This is great exposure for our club.

- Christmas Party- Dorie N8WTQ- Twenty people have already signed up to come. We will gather a 5:00 P.M. and eat at 6:00 at the Lee Township Hall on December 4th. Don't forget your white elephant gift.

- VE Session- Dennis N8ERF- The VE Session is on Saturday, December the

5th at the Salvation Army Building. He has seven VE's signed up. Short discussion about next classes.

- Silent key- Lee KC8ITI sadly told the news of Gary Vincent K8MWD who passed away on November 16th. A donation will be made in his name to the Messiah Lutheran Church from the club. He will be missed.

- Repeater Phone Patch Query? – John WB5PBL- Do we want to keep paying for this? Questions and Discussion. Dennis N8ERF moved that Phone Patch be Discontinued. Bill N8FUZ supported. Passed with a show of hands. (12 for and 7 against) More discussion followed. More investigation was asked for and John WB5PBL has agreed to look into other options. Phone patch discussion will continue at next meeting.

- Repeater/Remote Receiver–John WB5PBL- Possible radio purchase if test is successful.

- Formal Request–John- WB5PBL- A formal request was made for space on top of the Edenville Water Tower. Lots of politics.

- Training Classes–John WB5PBL- 300 and 400 level ARES classes to be offered in January. Roger Garner KB8VSS is hosting these daytime classes. No cost and lunches will be served. Contact John or Roger for more information.

- Vanity Call Signs- Lee KC8ITI- Check the FCC web site for new rules regarding vanity call signs. Possible new rules say clubs can only have one call sign. Web Site open for comments for the next 30 days.

- Hamfest Flier–Pat KC8RTW – Pat showed a finished Swap Flier on the overhead projector. Very nice, professionally done

- Books- Denny WD8BPT–Denny has suggested that we replace outdated materials at the library. He was able to get some donated books for replacement.

- PRB-1 Bill- Denny WD8BPT- Request for financial help to support the

PRB-1 bill. If passed the PRB-1 bill will allow stabilization of laws concerning tower height and structure through out the state. Dennis N8ERF made a motion to allocate \$500.00 for supplies and costs needed to lobby for the changes. Discussion followed. An amended motion on the floor made by Pat KC8RTW for \$100.00 was made. Seconded by Bob W8LSS. A hand vote of 23 for and 1 against followed. Motion Passed. The suggestion was made that funneling comments for the bill through a national traffic net may help this cause as well.

- Antenna Tuner- Denny WD8BPT- Does anyone have an extra antenna tuner that they could lend to Denny for his class at the Central Middle School?

- Suggestion- Ryan KC8PMX- Maybe, as a club we could spearhead an effort to support a cause or a family in need during next year's Christmas season.

- Used equipment up front for any takers.

- NET Control:
Dec 10th John WB5PBL
Dec 17th John NX8A
Dec 24th Michael KB4EIZ
Dec 31st Informal

- Lee KC8ITI finished the evening with a show and tell. He brought his mounted camera which makes very small pieces and parts much bigger on a monitor. It's much, much easier to solder tiny components onto boards using this device. Thank you for doing that.

- A motion was made by Dorie N8WTQ and seconded by Wendy KD8IWB to adjourn the meeting.

- Meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.
Respectfully submitted,
Linda KC8MUD
MARC Secretary

Upcoming Events

Dec 31	Straight Key Night
Jan 25-28	IS-300/400 Training
Apr 1	Skywarn Training

Michigan Hamfests

Jan 16	ARAY GCARES Burton
Jan 17	Hazel Park Hamfest
Feb 6	Negaunee
Feb 13	Cherryland Hamfest
Feb 21	Livonia Swap
Mar 20	Marshall Hamfest
Apr 3	Lowell
Apr 17	Milford
May 1*	Cadillac
Jun 19	Midland
Jun 20	Monroe

* denotes tentative date based on 2009 event

Area Nets

SVARA; Mn, 147.24 MHz, 2100 ET
Gladwin; Tu, 147.18 MHz, 2000 ET
BAARC; Tu, 145.31 MHz, 2100 ET
MARC; Th, 147.00 MHz, 2100 ET
District 3 ARPSC; Su, 145.31 MHz, 1800 ET
W Mi Trffc Net; MWF, 145.15 MHz, 0900 ET
TMMTN; Mon-Sat, 147.30 MHz, 2130 ET
MACS; Mon-Sat, 3953 kHz 1100 ET
MIARPSC; Su, 3932 kHz, 17:00 ET
UPN; Sun-Sat, 3920 KHz, 17:00 ET
MITN; Sun-Sat, 3952 kHz, 1800 ET
QMN; Sun-Fri, 3563 kHz, 1830 & 2200 ET
WSSBN, 3932 kHz, 1900 ET
UP-ARES; Fr, 3932 kHz, 1930 ET
GLETN; Sun-Sat, 3932 kHz, 2030 ET
SEMTN; Sun-Sat, 145.33, 2215 ET

MARC MERCHANDISE

T-Shirt	S- XL \$10
	2X - 3X \$12
Long-Sleeve Tee	S- XL \$12
	2X - 3X \$15
Crew Sweatshirt	S- XL \$18
	2X - 3X \$20
Hoodie	S- XL \$24
	2X - 3X \$26
Zipper Hoodie	S- 3X \$30
Winter Coat	S- XL \$42
	2X - 3X \$45
Spring Jacket	S- XL \$32
	2X - 3X \$35
Hat	\$10

All garments are royal blue with white print and embroidered name and number. Extended sizes available.

Please call Bill Lee at B&C Sportswear with questions @ (989) 839-4537.

My Two Cents

Pat Mullet, KC8RTW

It's been another slow month on the Amateur Radio front here in Shepherd.

I have been playing around trying to get my digital station up and running. I still have to get my MFJ TNC set up on my old Win98 box for both packet and

APRS, but wading through the manual is quite a chore—even the quick start documentation looks like Greek to me. I've also got a sneaking suspicion that the DB9 Serial cable may, in fact, be either a null modem cable or not have all the pins

connected. Plus, I really need an outside antenna for the two meter rig I'm using.

I do have the UI-View program for APRS running on my laptop, using Precision Mapping 8.1 to give me scrollable maps—this is a very nice combination for mobile use, better than the freeware add-ons for UI-View that download the required maps from online map servers. I've got the AGW Packet Engine up and running to provide a soundcard "TNC", but I'm having trouble getting the soundcard interface to talk to my HT. This may be due either to the Serial to USB adapter not

running properly under Vista, or possibly simply due to the interface not being properly set-up. I'll continue to play with both systems, but John, WB5PBL, has suggested that one of the ARES meetings may be used to set up portable systems, so that may be my best bet.

I'm also hoping to spend a few hours this weekend playing on the ARRL 10 Meter Contest. It'll be a good chance to see how my 6BTV plays on the higher frequencies.

Something else I'm looking forward to is Straight Key Night on December

31st. I doubt I'm actually going to be working anyone, but it may just give me a chance to brush up on my code.

That's pretty much if for this month—though I do have a couple of simple construction projects—cables and the like—that I need to get to, provided I get ambitious enough.

I'd like to take this time to wish everyone the joy of the season—Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Given the current state of the world, we could all use a bit of good will to all.

73,
Pat KC8RTW

ARES/RACES

Due to the Holidays, Midland County EC/RO John Wolters, WB5PBL has cancelled the January

ARES/RACES meeting.

The next meeting will be February 4th at 7:00pm at the Midland Salvation

Army Building, 330 Waldo, in Midland.

December 5th VE Exam Session Results

An ARRL sponsored VE testing session was held on December 5th at the Salvation Army Building. There were 14 candidates who took exam elements. There are five new hams that passed the Technician exam, four hams who upgraded to General Class and two who upgraded to Extra Class. The most exciting moment of the morning came when one of Denny's (WD8BPT) Central Middle School Amateur Radio Club students passed the Technician exam. The student is a very sharp and very pleasant student who loves to talk and has no

concept of mike fright! By now you should have heard that new young voice on the repeater, since I was told that Santa Claus was bringing an HT for Christmas.

The successful candidates were: Carl Russell Jr., KD8MQX, Tech; Jamie Dwyer, KD8MQZ, Tech; Adam Peet, KD8MRA, Tech; Duane Brown, KD8MRB, Tech; Wayne Peterson, KD8MRC, Tech; Steven Wrona, KD8MQY, (ex-KD8MMI), General; Robert Burgess, KC0CJC, General; Michael Dougherty, KD8MMH, General;

Michael Beckman, N8QCF, General; John Wolters, WB5PBL, Extra; David Paquette, WB8LZA, Extra.

I would like to thank the Salvation Army for the use of their facilities. I would also like to thank the following VEs who assisted at the session: Lee, KC8ITI; Larry, N8CGP; Bryan, K8VB; Pat, KD8IVZ; and Glenn, AA8AJ.

Best Regards,
Dennis, N8ERF
ARRL VEC Liaison

Midland Amateur Radio Club Merchandise Available Again

Due to popular request, orders are being taken once more for Midland Amateur Radio Club clothing and merchandise. MARC Secretary Linda Hodges, KC8MUD, has contacted Bill Lee, the Club's regular merchandise vendor and received the following quotes on an expanded variety of available merchandise:

T-Shirt S- XL \$10; 2 - 3X \$12

Long-Sleeve Tee S- XL \$12; 2 - 3X \$15
Crew Sweatshirt S- XL \$18; 2 - 3X \$20
Hoodie S- XL \$24; 2 - 3X \$26
Zipper Hoodie S- 3X \$30
Winter Coat S- XL \$42; 2 - 3X \$45
Spring Jacket S- XL \$32; 2 - 3X \$35
Hat \$10

All garments are royal blue with white print and embroidered name and number. Extended sizes are available.

Members will have the option of having their merchandise imprinted with the classic MARC logo or the updated version used in conjunction with the Club's 60th Anniversary activities.

To order, or if you have questions, please call Bill Lee at B&C Sportswear @ (989) 839-4537.

ICS-300 and ICS-400 Training Sessions to be Offered in Midland

Local Amateurs interested in Emergency Communications as well as area

Emergency Services Fire and Law Enforcement personnel are being given the

opportunity to participate in on-site training sessions for the following FEMA

courses: *ICS-300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents* and *ICS-400 Advanced ICS Command & General Staff - Complex Incidents*.

The ICS-300 session will be presented 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday, January 25th, Tuesday, January 26th and 8:00 am

until Noon Wednesday, January 27th. The ICS-400 class will begin at 1:00 pm on Wednesday and continue on Thursday, ending at 5:00 pm on Thursday. If you attend both courses you will be in class from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Thursday.

Both workshops will be held at the Midland Law Enforcement Center, 2727 Rodd Street, Midland MI 48640. The classes, lunches and refreshments are provided free of charge.

Contact Roger Garner at rgarner@co.midland.mi.us to register.

ARRL Bits

Jerry Sevick, W2FMI (SK) (Dec 1, 2009) -- Jerry Sevick, W2FMI -- renowned for his research and publications related to short vertical antennas and transmission line transformers -- passed away on Sunday, November 29. He was 90. In 2004, Sevick, an ARRL Technical Advisor, received the ARRL Hudson Division Technical Achievement Award; in 2005, he received the Dayton Hamvention Technical Excellence Award. The Hamvention Awards Committee noted that Sevick's April 1978 QST article on

short ground-radial systems "now serves as the world's standard for earth conductivity measurements."

For the full story, go to < <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/12/01/11226/?nc=1> >

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Scott Robbins, W4PA, to Purchase Vibroplex (Dec 7, 2009) -- Scott Robbins, W4PA, of Knoxville, Tennessee, told the ARRL that he has signed an agreement to purchase The Vibroplex Company, Inc from present owner Felton "Mitch" Mitchell, W4OA,

effective December 21, 2009. "Vibroplex represents the great tradition of CW operation in Amateur Radio going back many, many years," Robbins told the ARRL. "I'm tickled to be able to continue the more than 100 years of history that has gone into this company."

For the full story, go to < <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/12/07/11233/?nc=1> >

ARRL Licensing Study Guides Coming to an eBook Reader Near You

(ARRLWeb Dec 9, 2009) -- ARRL is pleased to announce that owners of Kindle -- an electronic book reader sold by Amazon.com -- can now download ARRL's Tech Q&A directly from the on-line bookseller for use on their Kindle. Kindle is shaped much like a book with a paper-like screen that displays text and pictures. Those who have the Kindle ap-

plication installed on their Apple iPhone or iPod touch can also download the book to be used on these devices. When you download the Tech Q&A, you can gain access quickly and easily, smoothing the path to your first ham radio license within minutes. This ideal study tool -- whether you're at home, in the office, traveling or just on the go -- lets

you review the questions and answers from the entire Technician question pool so you can pass the 35-question exam. Kindle versions of the General Q&A and the Amateur Extra Q&A will be available sometime in January. All three can be purchased from Amazon.com for \$9.99 each.

FCC Looks to Revise, Clarify Vanity Call Sign Rules

(ARRL Letter—November 25, 2009) On Wednesday, November 25, the FCC issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) -- WT Docket No. 09-209 -- seeking to amend the Commission's Amateur Radio Service rules to clarify certain rules and codify existing procedures governing the vanity call sign system, as well as revise certain rules applicable to club stations.

According to the FCC, almost 80,000 licensees have replaced their sequentially issued Amateur Radio call signs with a vanity call sign since the program began in 1996. When the program began, the Commission established what

they called "the broad outlines" of the vanity call sign system, concluding that call signs generally should not be available for reassignment for two years following the death of a licensee, or expiration or termination of the license for that call sign. In doing so, the Commission made exceptions for former holders of the call sign, close relatives of a deceased former holder and club stations of which a deceased former holder was a member.

The Commission did not, however, specify all of the procedures governing the vanity call sign system, but indicated that the procedures "would be set out in

the Public Notices announcing 'starting gates' for the groups receiving initial priority and that the procedures would be adjusted from gate to gate as experience dictated." The procedures announced in the Public Notices announcing the gates are still in effect, but they are not set forth in the Commission's Rules. The NPRM states that the FCC "now believe[s] that certain provisions should be codified in our rules, and others added, so that the vanity call sign system will be fair, equitable and transparent to all amateur service licensees. The Commission also decided in the Vanity Report and Order [issued in 1996] to resume is-

suings new club station licenses. We believe that certain rule changes to the club station licensing rules may be appropriate."

The comment period for WT Docket

No. 09-209 will extend for 60 days after it is published in the Federal Register. Historically, items appear in the Federal Register approximately 7-10 days after they appear on the FCC Web site. Reply

comments can be made up to 75 days after publication in the Federal Register. Read more at <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/11/25/11220/?nc=1>

ARRL, McSnyder Software Team Up to Provide iTunes Apps

(ARRLWeb-11 25, 2009) ARRL is pleased to announce the availability of a new suite of Amateur Radio mobile software -- designed specifically for use with the Apple's iPhone and iPod Touch. The applications -- or "apps" -- are named ARRL Technician, ARRL General and ARRL Extra and function as an electronic version of practice exam flash cards.

Amateur Radio exam candidates can use the applications as a study companion to the ARRL license manuals and classroom instruction. The apps include

all the possible questions and answers that will be on each of the license tests. Users can flag questions that need more review, segment questions for study by sub-element, or even study the questions in a random order.

The ARRL apps are produced and sold by McSnyder Software who has partnered with ARRL to provide the iPhone app series. McSnyder has also produced study applications for other organizations -- including exam preparation software for standardized educational testing in Texas, as well as US Citizenship

immigration testing. "We are excited to introduce Amateur Radio and ARRL into the rapidly expanding mobile and portable technology arena," said ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R. "Not only do these applications demonstrate ARRL's commitment to users of these popular devices, the software helps promote Amateur Radio outside of our traditional publication channels." The ARRL apps are available for \$1.99 each on Apple's iTunes "App Store."

NCVEC to Release New Technician Question Pool to Public in January 2010

(ARRLWeb—Nov 19, 2009) The Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) is due to release the new Technician class (Element 2) question pool to the 14 VECs on December 1, 2009; it will be released to the public in January 2010. Each ques-

tion pool for the three Amateur Radio license classes — Technician, General and Amateur Extra — is reviewed on a four-year rotation. This new Technician class pool will become effective on July 1, 2010.

The current General class question pool was effective July 1, 2007 and is val-

id through June 30, 2011. The current Amateur Extra class pool was effective July 1, 2008 and is valid until June 30, 2012.

For the full story, go to <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/11/19/11203/?nc=1>>

Technical Topics and Information

(ARRL Contest Update Dec 9, 2009) — Hams will benefit from research being done to improve batteries used for energy storage. In particular, the development of sodium-ion batteries (instead of lithium-ion) looks promising as described in this Technology Review article <<http://www.technologyreview.com/energy/24043/?a=f>>. Sodium ions are larger than lithium ions, but they are far more plentiful. Stay tuned for further details!

"Gland" is the term for a plastic seal that waterproofs a cable's passage through a bulkhead. A good assortment of glands is available from Rose-Bopla <http://www.rose-bopla.com/Prod_Group_Pgs/Cable_Glan

ds.htm> . John W5NNK contributed this link and recommended the GD Multiple Sealing Rings when dealing with more than one cable.

Tod, KØTO found a series of papers <<http://frodo.ce-service.biz/ka2qpg/kh6sr/chapter1.htm>> on listening for long-wave non-directional beacons below 535 kHz. Each chapter can be obtained by ending the URL with "chapter1.htm", "chapter2.htm", and so forth. The subject of synchronous noise blankers is covered in chapter 6.

If the ear cups in your headsets are pressing on your eyeglass temples, temple cushions

<<http://davidclark.com/store/ProductDetails.aspx?productID=62>> may be the solution. Spectacle-sporting Bob N6TV says that he has used eyeglass temple cushions from David Clark with Heil Prosets and they helped a lot. (Thanks, Bob N6TV)

Finally, a use for the PL-259 outer shells that you just can't force yourself to throw away after you forgot to put it on the cable and had to cut the body off and start again. (No, I never did that - I just heard about others doing it.) The photos in this eham.net article <<http://www.eham.net/articles/22841>> illustrate the process clearly.

Building (or rebuilding) a new tube

amp or HV power supply requires special high-voltage wire. This is pretty pricey stuff but automotive spark plug wire

<<http://www.magnecor.com/magnecor1/ruth.htm>> is a good substitute and saves money! You can also use the center conductor and insulator of RG-8 or RG-213 up to the 5 kV rating of the cable. (Thanks, Dino KX6D)

* * *

Imagine an antenna that heals itself

after it breaks! Here's a story about new flexible antennas made from liquid metal <<http://arstechnica.com/science/news/2009/12/flexible-self-healing-antennae-made-from-liquid-metal.ars>>. That would be almost as good as shunt feeding the liquid metal robot from Terminator II - the ultimate SteppIR! (Thanks, Brent W5WW)

* * *

Technical Web Site of the Week - For those of you tracking down power-

line noise, Scott WU2X rounded up the URLs for information about it on the ARRL Web site. There is an index, <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/pwr-line-noise/index.html>> an FAQ, <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/powerline-FAQ.html>> and the External Noise Handbook http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/power_line_handbook/ExternalNoiseHandbook.pdf to help you douse that buzz!

Swap 'n' Shop

Wanted: I'm looking for one or two of the old tube type, push pull amplifiers (Motorola, GE, or what ever) that used 4-125s, 4-250s, 4CX250s or similar. Some even used the conduction cooled Tetrodes. Also looking for a

4CX1500B/8660 in good condition. Of course a couple of GU84Bs/4CX800s would work as well. - Roger, K8RI

* * *

Want to Buy: An older 2 meter transmitter or transceiver that does not have the automatic SWR activated shut down circuit. Crystal controlled is OK. I need something in the 20 watt range. Dennis, N8ERF

MARC Vital Statistics

Memberships Expiring in December 2009

KD8JQZ

KD8JRA

N8STF

Memberships Expiring in January 2010

None

Memberships Expiring in February 2010

AA8EJ

KA8EZT

W8NON

K8RI

KC8URV

WB8FYR

K8SRH

N8JBW

WD8ODG

Current Active Club Membership 54

Birthdays Celebrated in December 2009 / January 2010

KC8TQV 12/01

WA8KJR 1/2

N8KRL 1/24

WB8WNF 12/07

KD8HIF 1/6

AB8TJ 1/26

N8ERF 12/10

K7GTK 1/8

KD8JQY 1/28

N8CGP 12/21

WZ8Z 1/12

KD8HID 1/29

AB8JF 12/21

KA8HQQ 1/13

KB8QWQ 1/29

NX8A 12/22

N8NNA 1/14

K8SRH 1/1

KD8IVZ 1/20

Anniversaries Celebrated in December 2009 / January 2010

KB8UIH and Shelley 12/08

AB8JF and N8WTQ 12/18

KD8JQX and KD8JQY 12/23

W8WOJ and KD8HIF 12/12

K7GTK and WZ8Z 12/22

KC8ZMQ and Karen 1/1

KD8IVZ and KD8IWB 12/16

N8ERF and N8NNA 12/23

KA8EZT and Linda 1/2

Information is from data received 11/6/2009

Any corrections or questions contact John, WB5PBL

Amateur Radio... We Do That!



Pat Mullet
Newsletter Editor
171 E. Orchard Ave.
Shepherd, MI 48883

If you desire to join the Midland Amateur Radio Club, the dues are \$20 per year for an individual membership. A family membership is available for an additional \$5 per year which covers all of the individual's family members. Family members must reside at the same address as the primary member to be eligible for the family member rate. The membership dues help to cover the operating expenses of the Club, and its radio systems. Membership includes Autopatch privileges on the W8KEA repeater (147.000+), voting privileges at MARC meetings, and a monthly newsletter. Please supply the following information:

Name: _____ Callsign: _____ License Class _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone (____) _____ Work Phone (____) _____
E-mail address _____
Spouse: _____ Callsign: _____ License Class _____
Birthday: (mm/dd) _____ Anniversary: (mm/dd) _____
Desired newsletter format: Paper copy via USPS _____ or via e-mail _____

Are you an ARRL Member? Y/N Do you want an ARES Application? Y/N

We request this information so we can communicate with you regarding MARC business, and periodically send you newsletters and congratulatory birthday & anniversary greetings. We do not sell this information nor will we knowingly publicize private information without your permission. Information that is publicly available may be distributed to Club members for various purposes, including membership lists, without prior notification.

You may give this completed form to the MARC treasurer, or you may mail it to:

MARC, PO Box 1049, Midland, MI 48641-1049