



MIDLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
PO BOX 1049, MIDLAND, MICHIGAN 48641  
www.w8kea.org

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Michael Vecchitto KB4EIZ	(989) 832-3932
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#### 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 February 4, 2010  
Salvation Army Building, 330 Waldo 7:30 PM  
Talk-in on 147.000 MHz +

February 2010

## View from the Top of the Tower

Lee Hodges, KC8ITI

A New Year and new challenges are upon us. All of you are aware of the earthquake that hit Haiti on January 12th. As in any disaster, amateur radio has a part to play. In the immediate aftermath, a couple of Haitian hams were on the air for a short time but since then, there have been very few signals coming from Haiti. I'm sure that most hams on the island are looking to their own immediate needs. As things stabilize, I expect local hams will try to reestablish communication with the outside world as best they can. I also expect relief workers who are also hams to have radio equipment as part of their response effort. For now exercise the spirit the makes amateur radio a gentleman's hobby. Monitor the designated frequencies for traffic. Otherwise, stay clear of those same frequencies in your daily operating activities. If you are monitoring the designated emergency frequencies and someone has traffic for your area, you're best to handle it as directed. Don't assume someone else will take it. Remember, good or bad, the worst part for anyone waiting for news is the not knowing. The message you deliver may lift the cloud of anxiety for them.

Thanks to all of you for braving the bad weather to attend our January meeting. It was heartening to see the room well popu-

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



lated with dedicated club members.

With our change in resident agent for the state of Michigan, the paperwork finally caught up with us to renew our non-profit status with the

#### 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)

state. We now are required to have three trustees instead of just one. I'd like to thank Larry, N8CGP, John, KD8HID and Dorie, N8WTQ for volunteering to fill these needed positions.

Negotiations are going forward on using the Salvation Army building for our 2010 swap again this year on June 19th. A lot of lessons were learned last year that come along with any new venue. Better ways of using the facilities are in the works. Already new ideas for seminars are coming forth along with ways to have better overall traffic flow in and out of the building. Let Keith, KB8SOE know if you have any ideas and/or comments on how to make our swap better.

We are still looking for your input on what licensing classes should be scheduled and in what order. If you have an interest in a class to upgrade your license or know of someone that is looking for a class opportunity let me know so we can get the ball rolling to accommodate your needs.

The club had some equipment donated to us recently from an estate. I'd like to thank Michael, KB4EIZ and Carol, KD8HIC for making the trip to pick up the transceiver and getting to me. I've printed out the manual for the radio and will spend some time putting it through its paces.

Along those lines, the current Technician question pool expires June 30th of 2010 with all Technician tests to be from the new question pool after that date. The new question pool was made available the first part of January. I've had a chance to look at the new pool and it looks like the depth of knowledge required is more comprehensive than the previous pool. Of course, as we revamp our course material for our next round of Technician classes after July 1st, we will have to delve deeper into some topics which should keep our instructor corps on their toes. If you get a chance, take a look at the new Tech question pool so you have an idea of what our new entry-level candidates are being asked to know about ham radio.

Thursday, April 1st is the date of our annual Skywarn® training at 7 P.M. in the Law Enforcement Center on Rodd St. in

Midland. This is also a club meeting night so we will hold our business meeting after the Skywarn® session.

At the last meeting Denny, WD8BPT presented one of our newest hams and newest club members Jamie, KD8MQZ with her first contact certificate. If you haven't met Jamie yet, you're in for a real treat. Jamie is an eleven-year-old fireball from Denny's middle school club. She has already asked for a general class study guide and I wouldn't be surprised if she makes extra by the time she's in high school. If you want to understand what enthusiasm is let Jamie bend your ear for awhile.

I'll wrap it up for this month. To tell you the truth I haven't spent much time on amateur radio in the last couple of weeks. I've spent some time on one of my other hobbies, writing computer programs. I know, you'd think that someone that earns his living correcting other people's programming mistakes wouldn't want to go anywhere near computer programs in their spare time. I've enjoyed writing my own computer programs long before I became the avid ham you know today. The genesis for this particular programming project came from the thought that some of the utilities I've written to help around the ham shack are based on Microsoft operating systems and programming languages. The thought crossed my mind that I'm being held hostage to one company and there must be alternatives. I've dabbled with LINUX and Open Office before and decided that they might be valid candidates for my conversion effort. The original programs were written in Visual Basic. I've selected a programming language called Open Office Rexx for my conversion efforts. It runs on both Windows and LINUX. I've almost got the converted code working on Windows and will port it over to LINUX soon. By the way, for those of you that are interested, I've set April 16th, 2010 as my retirement date. Remember not to neglect your other hobbies, it will give you some subjects of conversion to discuss with your on the air friends.

Best regards, Lee - KC8ITI

***Amateur Radio  
is a Contact Sport!***

## MARC Minutes

Linda Hodges, KC8MUD

The January meeting was called to order by Lee KC8ITI with 25 in attendance at 7:33 P.M.

- A sign-in sheet was passed around and introductions were made. A motion was made to approve December's minutes. The minutes have not been published yet so a motion was made by Chris KB8UIH to wait until next month to approve the minutes. Seconded by Wendy KB8IWB. Passed.

- Treasurer's Report- John, W8QN Summarized totals for 2009, discussion followed.

- EC/RO Report -John - W8QN Winter Weather Skywarn® Training will be held on Thursday April 1st at LEC Starting at 7:00 P.M. Everybody is welcome to attend.

- First Contact Award-Denny WD8BPT- This award was presented to one of our newest hams, Jamie KD8MQZ for her first contact. Congratulations Jamie.

- Christmas Party wrap-up-Lee KC8ITI- A very good time was had by all.

- Speednet- Keith KB8SOE- Contact by Representatives at Speednet and asked what perks do they get for our free internet connection to support packet. Speednet has been offered a table at the swap or advertising in the newsletter. Discussion followed.

- Classes-Lee KC8ITI- Classes to start in spring. A location has yet to be determined.

- Changes have been made in the new Technician question pool.

- Swap-Keith KB8SOE- It will be held at the Salvation Army building on June the 19th. Keith will contact ARRL site and have info posted there. Discussion followed. Please send your 'swap' ideas to Keith.

- Field Day- Pat KC8RTW- Possibly will be at Dow Diamond.

- Reimbursement- Denny WD8BPT-

Denny reimbursed our new ham Jamie KD8MQZ the money spent for taking and passing her amateur radio test. Good job Jamie.

- Donation- Ryan KC8PMX-Discussion about a donation to a worthy cause for next year. Suggested that donated money go to Salvation Army. Ideas will be run by Jim, KD8HIH when he comes back from Florida.

- On The Air- Pat KC8RTW- If anybody hears public information announcements about amateur radio or announcements about radio events on the air please let Pat KC8RTW know.

- SATERN Vehicle - Denny WD8BPT- If we would like the use of the SATERN Vehicle for the Swap and/or Field Day we need to get our request in early as there are other organizations that would like to use it.

- NET Control:

Jan 14th Mike KB4EIZ

Jan 21st Keith KB8SOE

Jan 28th Ryan KC8PMX

Feb 11th Wendy KD8IWB

- Repeater -Larry N8CGP the repeater will be a topic of discussion at the next meeting.

- Program- Chris KB8UIH -The use of the auto patch came in handy for Chris after an auto accident in Midland. Chris showed pictures of his damaged vehicle and also an assortment of other pictures for an interesting trip down memory lane.

- Del WD8FYR also suggested we visit his web site to see pictures he took from Ten-Tec Headquarters in Gatlinburg that he and Ruth WD8ODG visited a few weeks ago.

- A motion was made by Pat KC8RTW and seconded by Wendy KD8IWB to adjourn the meeting. Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda KC8MUD

MARC secretary

## Upcoming Events

Jan 25-28	IS-300/400 Training
Apr 1	Skywarn Training

## Michigan Hamfests

<del>Jan 16</del>	<del>ARAY GCARES</del> 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

This month, I'm going to change format a bit and put on my ARRL Michigan Section Public Information Coordinator hat and pontificate.

By now, everyone is aware that on Tuesday, January 12, there was a 7.0 mag-

nitude earthquake in Haiti, which has since been followed by serious aftershocks. The loss of life has been high, and infrastructure has effectively been obliterated. Thanks to the Media and the 24 hour news cycle, the pain and suffering



the Haitians are experiencing has been force-fed to the American public, who have responded, in the best American fashion, with an urgent need to *do something* to alleviate that suffering, and to do it now. Just look at the way the public has responded to the Red Cross's effort to raise funds via text message—with each text being a pledge for a \$10 donation, they've raised more than 6 million dollars in the first five days.

Now look at the Amateur Radio community. A significant number of Hams either got their tickets to provide Emergency Communications and aid in Disaster Relief, or have migrated toward that aspect of our hobby as a way to give back to society, our way to "pay it forward," as it were. Now, since it's obvious that communications in and out of Haiti are a shambles, everyone with a li-

cense and an HT is ready to hop a plane and fly down to aid the relief effort.

While this is a laudable urge, even if the average ham could manage to get to Haiti, it would be incredibly counterproductive.

Firstly, the IARU (International Amateur Radio Union) is coordinating the multi-national response by Hams. Not only do they have to make arrangements to get Hams and their equipment—and mind you, an HT and a spare battery pack is not going to cut it—but they also have to coordinate food, water, shelter and sanitation for those that do go. If you're not part of the organized effort, you become part of the problem.

For the near term, if you're a Ham and want to help, perhaps the best thing to do is listen in on the traffic nets and volunteer to pass Health and Welfare traffic. Another thing to do is to contact

either the American Red Cross or the Salvation Army and ask how to volunteer your services as an Amateur Radio Operator.

As I write this, the ARRL has not been asked for a deployment through ARES, but this will be handled through the Section Emergency Coordinators, in our case, our own John, WB8RCR. If you really want to deploy to Haiti, contact John for that information.

This is not going to be a short term event—current plans are for the relief effort in Haiti to last at least six months, and I would bet that it will run longer than that.

I'll end this by saying that I'm not trying to dissuade anyone from going to Haiti to help in the recovery, just do it in a safe, organized manner.

73, Pat, KC8RTW

## CQ DX

## Don Christensen, W8WOJ

Happy New Year. Lots of ham radio activity this early New Year. Those of you with a general class license or higher have the opportunity to participate in one or more of the many nets operating on 160 and 80 meters. You will work stations all over the Midwest or further. The Everynite 160 meter net meets on 1895 KHz at 7PM. Propagation is good well into the evening and many Michigan stations call in.

Of course there are a great number of statewide nets operating on 75 meter SSB. These nets give hams the opportunity to get to know many hams in the loc-

al regional area. If you're an earlybird, try the BBC, also called the Before Breakfast Club on 3973 KHz from 3 to 5AM. Too early? The Breakfast Club takes over at 5AM and holds forth 'til 9AM.

My favorite evening nets on 75 meters include The Wolverine SSB net on 3935 KHz at 5PM, The Buzzards Roost Net on 3930 at 4:30PM, the UP Net on 3921 at 4:30 and The Great Lakes Emergency and Traffic Net on 3932 at 7PM. This past New Years Eve, the Wolverine Net held its Midnite Madness celebration with outstanding certificates or QSL cards sent to all check-ins.

Then on January 7, the Wolverine Net celebrated its 50th anniversary-again awards to all check-ins.

Lots of European DX is being worked on 75 meters around 3800 KHz in the late evenings. Recently I worked 14 European stations in a matter of 30 minutes all on the same frequency. Many of these stations were S-9 to S-9 plus. Recently GM3PPG from Western Scotland was worked with an S-9 plus signal. The picture in QRZ.com will show why.

73 de Don W8WOJ

## MARS Gets New Name As It Fine Tunes Mission

(ARRL Letter—Jan 7, 2010) On Wednesday, December 23, the Department of Defense (DoD) issued an *Instruction* concerning MARS, effective immediately. This *Instruction* gives the three MARS services — Army, Air Force and Navy/Marine Corps — a new focus on homeland security and a new name: Military *Auxiliary* Radio System. The *Instruction* is the first major revision to MARS since January 26, 1988 — as such, the first revision since the 9/11 attacks and Hurricane Katrina, two major events that changed the way Amateur Ra-

dio dealt with emergency communications. In the past, MARS had focused primarily on emergency communications and health and welfare support. The DoD's *Instruction* now directs the three MARS services to provide "contingency radio communications" to support US government operations, DoD components and "civil authorities at all levels," providing for national security and emergency preparedness events. MARS units will still continue to provide health and welfare communications support "to military members, civilian employees and con-

tractors of DoD Components, and civil agency employees and contractors, when in remote or isolated areas, in contingencies or whenever appropriate." MARS must also be capable of operation in "radio only" modes -- without landlines or the Internet -- and sustainable on emergency power (when public utility power has failed); some MARS stations must be transportable for timely deployment. Read more at <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/12/24/11267/?nc=1>

## Severe Weather Spotting Class to be Offered

With Christmas barely passed and Michigan caught deep in the throes of winter, most of us will find it hard to worry about the possibility of severe weather in the spring and summer months. Even so, now's the time to start

planning for the inevitable rough weather, and to that end, the National Weather Service's Detroit Forecast Office is scheduling Severe Weather Training seminars throughout the seventeen counties they serve. This

year's Midland County Skywarn® training session will be held Thursday, April 1st, at the Midland Law Enforcement Center, 2727 Rodd St. The session will begin at 7:00pm, and run approximately 2 hours.

## Midland Amateur Radio Club Merchandise Available Again

Due to popular request, orders are being taken again for Midland Amateur Radio Club clothing. 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

call sign. 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.

## New ARRL Course on Digital Technology for EmComms

(ARES E-Letter—Jan 7, 2010) With digital technology becoming an integral part of Amateur Radio, hams interested in emergency communications now have a new tool to help them take advantage of emerging modes such as Packet Radio APRS, Winlink 2000, IRLP, EchoLink and WIRES-II, D-STAR, APCO25, HF sound card modes and Automatic Link Establishment (ALE). The ARRL Digital Technology for Emergency Communications Course will introduce hams to all of the ways Amateur

Radio operators are using digital technology as a valuable emergency communications tool.

Written by ARRL Publications Manager and QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, this self-study CD-ROM will answer such questions as: Can you transfer supply lists or personnel assignments between emergency operations sites? Can you get critical e-mails to the Internet if a connection goes down? Can you relay digital images of damage at specific locations? Can you track the locations

of emergency personnel and display them on computer maps?

Illustrations, screenshots, Internet links and audio files are used to demonstrate transmission modes and equipment configurations. Bite-sized learning units and interactive knowledge checks make learning interesting and fun.

"This course is a great starting point for anyone interested in the public service applications of digital communications technology," said Ford.

## 2009 Sees Surge of New Amateur Radio Licensees

(ARRLWeb—Jan 6, 2010) This past year was a banner year for new Amateur Radio licensees. According to ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, the FCC issued more than 30,000 new ham radio licenses. "In 2009, the demand for Amateur Radio exam sessions remained elevated and is still running at a higher rate than before the FCC's restructuring of the license requirements in 2007," Somma said. "This high level of exam session activity has produced an elevated influx of new applications, far outpacing recent years."

A total of 30,144 new licenses were

granted in 2009, an increase of almost 7.5 percent from 2008. In 2005, 16,368 new hams joined Amateur Radio's ranks; just five years later, that number had increased by almost 14,000 -- a whopping 84 percent! The ARRL VEC is one of 14 VECs who administer Amateur Radio license exams.

"When looking at the statistics over the last 10 years, these are some of the highest numbers we've seen," Somma explained. "Additionally, our total number of licensees across all three classes has grown each year." Currently there are 682,500 licensed Amateur Radio operat-

ors in the US, an almost 3 percent rise over 2008. In 2008, there were 663,500 licensed amateurs; there were 655,800 in 2007. Broken down by license class, at the end of 2009 there were 17,084 Novices, 334,245 Technicians, 150,970 Generals, 60,795 Advanced and 119,403 Amateur Extra licensees.

"The ARRL VEC has been busy meeting the needs of the Amateur Radio community by helping people to become radio amateurs or upgrade their existing licenses," Somma said. "In 2009, ARRL VEs administered 44,595 exam elements at 6369 ARRL VEC-sponsored exam

sessions. The number of amateurs who want to be Volunteer Examiners and who want to teach Amateur Radio classes is also going up -- we've seen a spike in the number of applications from General and Extra class radio amateurs who want to give back to their community by

serving as ARRL examiners and instructors."

Somma applauded all the volunteers whose "hard work and contribution of countless hours of time helps to ensure the future of Amateur Radio. The ARRL VEC thanks our 32,411 VEs from

around the world whose dedication and service helped to contribute to the success of Amateur Radio. I am delighted by these important achievements. 2009 was a very good year for Amateur Radio and I am excited by the promise of 2010."

## ***General Q&A, Extra Q&A Now Available for Kindle***

(ARRL Web—Jan 12, 2010) In December 2009, the ARRL's Tech Q&A debuted on Amazon.com for use with Kindle. Now we are pleased to announce that the General Q&A and the Extra Q&A are now available directly from the online bookseller for use on the Kindle. Kindle is shaped much like a book with a paper-like screen that displays text and

pictures. Those who have the Kindle application installed on their Apple iPhone, iPod touch -- or even on their computer -- can download the book for use on these devices. When you download the Tech Q&A, General Q&A and the Extra Q&A, you get access to these study tools quickly and easily, smoothing the path to your first -- or next! -- ham radio license.

Studying on the Kindle is perfect for today's busy lifestyle, whether you're at home, in the office, traveling or just on the go. Each version of the Q&A lets you review questions and answers from that element's entire question pool so you can pass your exam. All three versions are available for purchase from Amazon.com for \$9.99 each.

## ***Amateur Radio Bill Passes Senate, Moves to the House***

(ARRLWeb—Dec 15, 2009) On Monday, December 14, S 1755 -- The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009 -- passed the Senate by unanimous consent; the bill now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration. Sponsored by Senator Joe Lieberman (ID-CT), and Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), S 1755, if passed, would direct the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to undertake a study on emergency communications. S 1755 points out that "There is a strong Federal interest in the effective performance of Amateur Radio Service stations, and that performance must be given -- (A) support at all levels of government; and (B) protection against unreasonable regulation and impediments to the provision of the valuable communications provided by such stations."

Members of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee considered S 1755 on December 10. After it passed through Committee, it was placed on the Senate's calendar to be voted on. "We are grateful to Committee Chairman Lieberman and Ranking Member Collins for sponsoring the bill and arranging for its swift consideration and passage by the Senate," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ.

Similar in language to HR 2160 (also called The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009 that was introduced this past April by Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee [D-TX-18]), S 1755 calls on DHS to undertake a study on the uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio Service communications in emergencies and disaster relief and then to submit a report to Congress no more than 180 days after the bill becomes law. The study shall:

- Include a review of the importance of Amateur Radio emergency communications in furtherance of homeland security missions relating to disasters, severe weather and other threats to lives and property in the United States, as well as recommendations for enhancements in the voluntary deployment of Amateur Radio licensees in disaster and emergency communications and disaster relief efforts and improved integration of Amateur Radio operators in planning and furtherance of the Department of Homeland Security initiatives.
- Identify impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio Service communications, such as the effects of unreasonable or unnecessary private land use regulations on residential antenna installations; and make recommendations regarding such impediments for

consideration by other federal departments, agencies and Congress.

In conducting the study, S 1755 directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to "utilize the expertise of stakeholder entities and organizations, including the Amateur Radio, emergency response and disaster communications communities."

S 1755 makes note of the fact that Section 1 of the Joint Resolution entitled Joint Resolution to Recognize the Achievements of Radio Amateurs, and To Establish Support for Such Amateurs as National Policy—approved October 22, 1994 (Public Law 103-408) -- included a finding that stated: "Reasonable accommodation should be made for the effective operation of Amateur Radio from residences, private vehicles and public areas, and the regulation at all levels of government should facilitate and encourage amateur radio operations as a public benefit." The bill also pointed out that Section 1805© of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 757©) directs the Regional Emergency Communications Coordinating Working Group of the Department of Homeland Security to coordinate their activities with ham and Amateur Radio operators among the 11 other emergency organizations, such as ambulance services, law enforcement and others.



## Hints & Kinks : A BNC Connector Tool

(ARRL Letter—Jan.7, 2010) Scott McCann, W3MEO, of Queenstown, Maryland, made this tool by soldering a BNC connector to the shaft of an old screwdriver: "I cut off the blade and tinned the shaft with ordinary solder and

flux. I then removed the center pin and Teflon from a BNC plug and soldered the plug onto the screwdriver shaft. While it was hot, I 'locked up' the nut and collar with solder. Now I have a BNC driver, very handy for installing

and removing BNC jacks without marring them, which can happen using pliers or other 'make do' tools."

## Swap 'n' Shop

**Wanted for projects:** I'm looking for one of two of the old tube type repeater amps—such as GE, Motorola, or whatever—that used either the glass 4-125s, 4-250's or Metal Ceramic tubes. I'm also looking for power tubes in the amateur legal limit range or those that will do so with a bit of headroom such as the 4CX-1500 A or B, 3CX1500D (A or D bit prefer the D), GU74B/4CX800,

3CX-800, the CPX versions, or almost any of the Russian Tetrodes such as the GU84B/4CX-2500, GS-23B, GU-73B or the old antique 450-750TH. A good spectrum analyzer that will work from line frequency into the GHz range (either stand alone unit or one that will work with a computer) Of course PS components as well as amp components are welcome. 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 January 2010

None

### Memberships Expiring in February 2010

AA8EJ  
K8RI  
K8SRH

KA8EZT  
KC8URV  
N8JBW

W8NON  
WB8FYR  
WD8ODG

### Memberships Expiring in March 2010

AB8JF  
N8WTQ

K6VWE  
K8VB

Current Active Club Membership 63

### Birthdays Celebrated in January/February 2010

K8SRH 1/1  
WA8KJR 1/2  
KD8HIF 1/6  
K7GTK 1/8  
WZ8Z 1/12  
KA8HQW 1/13  
N8NNA 1/14

KD8IVZ 1/20  
N8KRL 1/24  
AB8TJ 1/26  
KD8JQY 1/28  
KD8HID 1/29  
KB8QWQ 1/29  
KC8ITI 2/2

AA8EJ 2/3  
W8JBD 2/4  
KB8LQM 2/8  
W8NON 2/14  
WW9E 2/18

### Anniversaries Celebrated in January / February 2010

KC8ZMQ and Karen 1/1  
KA8EZT and Linda 1/2

KC8TQS and Julia 2/14  
WW9E and KB9YSQ 02/15

Information is from data received 1/17/2009

Any corrections or questions contact John, W8GN

# 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**