



W8KEA



MARC

MIDLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
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www.w8kea.org

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	Michael Vecchitto KB4EIZ	(989) 832-3932
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	Michael Vecchitto KB4EIZ	(989) 832-3932
	Jeff Mowery N8KS	(989) 615-3715
	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

Midland W8KEA Repeater — 147.000 MHz+ PL 103.5 / Midland W8KEA Digipeater — 145.090 MHz

Next ARES®/RACES Meeting — June Meeting Cancelled

Next CLUB MEETING — Thursday June 3, 2010

Salvation Army Building, 330 Waldo 7:30 PM

Talk-in on 147.000 MHz +

June 2010

## View from the Top of the Tower

Lee Hodges, KC8ITI

I never really believed all of you that retired before me that said once you retired you didn't have a spare minute to do anything. I'm now a believer. Of course, it could have something to do with all of the preparations for our move to Midland. The house here in Frankenmuth is sold barring any unforeseen snags and our new house at 134 N. Homer Rd. is on track to close on the same day as the Frankenmuth house. I really thought that when we moved over here 10 years ago that we downsized by deciding what treasures we could do without and not move them with us. Either we didn't get rid of as much stuff as we thought or over the years we've accumulated more new treasures. I've made a solemn vow that as we move things into the new house that some of my junk has to go. Let's see just how well I do on this promise.

Thanks to Jack, NX8A for his presentation at the last Club meeting on the effort to set up search and rescue teams in the Midland area. For any search and rescue effort communications is key and that's where the amateur community comes in. Just like our

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



training with the National Weather Service for Skywarn® duties, we need to train to support these search teams in their efforts. If you would like to become involved with search and rescue or would like more information, give Jack a call.

Chris, KB8UIH reported that things went well on May 1<sup>st</sup> 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/exam-search.php?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, or have trouble with delivery via USPS, contact Michael, KB4EIZ, at kb4eiz@yahoo.com.

#### 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)

2010 MS walk. As always he could have used a couple more operators but he had enough to cover the key locations. Thanks to Chris and all of you that spent the morning supporting this worthwhile event.

Speaking of May 1<sup>st</sup>, some of us from the Club made the trek to the Cadillac swap. The swap was well attended but the number of vendors seemed to be down, especially the commercial vendors. It looks like most of the commercial vendors have decided that ham swaps are just not economically feasible anymore. It looks like the pendulum is swinging back to swaps that consist of local hams selling to local hams.

The Dow Walk/Run is taking place on June 5<sup>th</sup>. John, W8QN, is recruiting as many operators as he can to support our Club efforts for this event. If you can give us a hand on June 5<sup>th</sup>, give John a call. If you can't help on that day also let John know so he can update his contact list.

Our annual Swap is on June 19<sup>th</sup>. Sign up sheets for various duties will be at the next meeting. Contact Keith, KB8SOE or any of the Swap committee for Swap related information.

2010 Field Day will be at Dow Diamond. If you have any questions or concerns give Jeff or any member of the field

committee a call.

Our Club date for Dow Diamond Community Night is Wednesday July 21<sup>st</sup>. We will probably set up a couple stations inside the stadium for the evening home game. If you have any ideas for the evening let me know.

Pause for effect..... Linda and I just got back from Dayton. We had a wonderful time. The motel we stayed at had a shuttle to and from Hara Arena. The car never left the parking lot. I had a short shopping list but I didn't find much of what I was looking for. I'm sure the stuff was there somewhere, I just didn't look in the right place. I did pick up a couple of books and a few other items. Linda and I took in some of the technical sessions and spent time talking to the ARRL staff about our Club classes and what they could do to help us out. Even when we took a break for lunch, we made new friends as we chatted with our tablemates. I'm not sure that Dayton will become an annual event for us but I am sure that I won't wait another 30 years to make the trip again. This is a great hobby so enjoy it to the fullest.

Best regards, Lee – KC8ITI

## MARC Minutes Linda Hodges, KC8MUD

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M. with 34 in attendance. A sign-in sheet was passed around and introductions were made. A motion on the floor to approve last month's minutes by Pat KC8RTW, seconded by Dennis N8ERF, passed.

- MS Walk follow-up- Chris KB8UIH- Could have used a little more help but thanks to all who did help. Around 400 participants raising approximately \$48,000.00 dollars. Good day. No major problems to report.

- Treasurer's report- John W8QN- Thank you to Gloria Fath KC8IHB, Pat and Carmella McPherson WW9E & KB8YSQ, Charles Cribley WA8LQD, Jim Cooper KC8ZMQ, James Carrier KD8HIH and Wayne Peterson KD8MRC for your renew-

als.

- EC/RO Report- John W8QN- Not too much happening. There is some Emergency training coming up in the Tri-County area. 30 operators are needed in Saginaw. Please contact John if you would like to participate.

- Dow Run-John W8QN- Always the first Saturday in June. 25 operators are needed from 7:30 A.M. until noon to make this event run smoothly. Please contact John to sign up.

- Michigan QSO Party wrap-up - Pat KD8IVZ- A good way to get your feet wet contesting and is lots of fun. Can make contacts at home or mobile. Michigan hams are center of attention as everybody else is trying to find you. From noon to midnight and is always in

# Amateur Radio is a Contact Sport!

April.

• Swap- Keith KB8SOE- June 19<sup>th</sup> at the Salvation Army Building. Vendors calling earlier than expected, DEBCO coming for sure. 24 tables out of the 46 that will fit in gym are taken already. Bill Hayes coming with his very interesting "Standing Up For Standing Waves" seminar and demo. Dorie will check prices on plastic tubs for tubes. Does anybody know where to get some more tables if we need them? If so please let Keith know. No Bike Rally at fairgrounds this year. Discussion followed.

• Field Day-Lee KC8ITI- Dow Diamond on Saturday June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, Media will cover this PR event. Food, logistics, power supplies, space and PR all topics of discussion. Proclamations will be picked up as needed

• Memorial Day Parade- Dorie N8WTQ May 31<sup>st</sup> is the day for this. Bill AB8JF and Dorie have a trailer and truck available. Please contact them if you would like to take part in the parade. Its lots of fun and a good PR event.

• Donation-Bill AB8JF- Our many thanks to Dan Anderson KD8QER for the many items he generously donated to the club.

• Flat Tire Story- Bill AB8JF- Bill and Dorie were stranded with a flat on their way home from a trip and it was amateur radio

operators that were able to help them on their way.

• Loons Promotion- Pat KC8RTW- Wednesday July 21<sup>st</sup> is the Great Lakes Loons Community Organization of the Night Promotion. We can hang banners, Our logo will be on the big screen, and there will be two free tickets for anybody who wants to man the tables for the night. Sign-up sheet was passed around.

#### NET CONTROLS:

May 13<sup>th</sup> Keith KB8SOE

May 20<sup>th</sup> Wendy KD8IWB

May 27<sup>th</sup> Ryan KC8PMX

• Search and Rescue using Amateur Radio-Jack NX8A- A good way to really become involved with some important work in your community would be to learn how to find lost people. Jack explained what training and knowledge is required. If you are interested in being a part of a group of people who could be called upon to do search and rescue please let Jack know.

• A motion was made by Larry N8CGP and seconded by Wendy KD8IWB to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda KC8MUD  
MARC Secretary

## My Two Cents

Pat Mullet, KC8RTW

Well, despite the fact that I've been busier than a one-armed paper hanger the last few weeks getting things ready on the PR side for both the Swap and Field Day, I have managed to squeeze in some time to work on amateur radio, if not actually get on the air.

The last weekend of April is always Maple Syrup Festival weekend here in Shepherd, and as such, the days immediately before see a multitude of yard sales pop up around here. Since part of my routine is a daily walk—weather permitting—I thought I'd check a few of them out. One such had a computer for sale, the owner having upgraded to an Apple. It was a Windows XP box and not only had a number of USB ports, but mike and headphone ports on the front panel. On asking, I was told it worked, but she couldn't locate the documentation or the CDs that came with it. Since she was only asking \$5.00—and I've been fighting my Windows 98SE box in trying to

set up a digital station—I decided to go for it. Hey, even if it didn't work, I would only be out a five-spot.

Happy with my purchase, I continued my wandering ways, and found a sale that featured a couple of computers, including several LCD flat screen monitors. Long story short, I was able to dicker the price down to \$55.00, so I was feeling quite happy that weekend.

During the next several days, I tested the system out. I immediately fell in love with the flat screen, but soon learned to hate the XP box. It fired up fine, so I proceeded to clean out some old files and set up my own user account. When I tried installing some programs using a USB drive, I learned that all the USB ports were dead. Suspicious, I tried to check out the audio on the system, only to find that the computer kept saying it didn't have one, even though it was integral to the motherboard. So, I've pretty much decided that I'm going to experiment with a

### Upcoming Events

Jun 5	Dow Run
Jun 26/27	Field Day
Jul 8-10	Lupton Outing
Jul 21	MARC Night at Dow Diamond

### Michigan Hamfests

Jun 5	IRA Hamfest/Hudsonville
Jun 6	Chelsea
Jun 19	Midland
Jun 20	Monroe
Aug 7	Escanaba
Aug 15	Lapeer
Aug 21	Owosso
Sep 11	GRAHamfest/Wyoming
Sep 19	Adrian
Oct 16	Holland
Oct 17	Kalamazoo
Dec 10	Mt. Clemens

\* 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  
Edmore, Th, 146.8, 2000 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.

couple of hacks I was hesitant to play with before for fear of crashing the system—especially without the recovery disks—then probably gut it for parts and go back to the Win98 box until I find a replacement.

On the brighter side, I lugged my

laptop to the May ARES meeting for the scheduled Packet Radio mini-seminar/demo and was able to get it up and running with a sound card interface driving my HT, so I know that at least one of my digital setups work. I've a sneaking suspicion that the problem I had with the

home system driving the TNC was a bad cable. Maybe I'll be able to check that out in the next several weeks.

Well, gotta get back to the PR work; hope to see you all on the air.

73, Pat, KC8RTW

## ARES®/RACES

John Wolters, W8QN

First, there will be no ARES/RACES meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

We covered the use of Packet radio in our last meeting. There was a lot of good discussion and I think everyone either learned something new or helped with the discussion. Look for a weekend activity with packet radio at the EOC, CSB, and Communications van in July after things settle down with all the activity in June.

I am writing this on Thursday evening after the Tri-County disaster drill. It rained all day which dampened the exercise in many ways. We had expected it to run until 4 pm and by noon we were

done. 30 patients were expected to be transported to the Midland Hospital and only 4 made it. It will be interesting to attend the recap meeting when it is held. Amateur radio was well represented in Saginaw and Midland Counties. Thanks to John (WB8RCR), John/Jack (NX8A), Dennis (N8ERF), for their help and Dell (WB8FYR) and Chris (KB8UIH) for standby.

One last point; I have put together a 440 repeater to be used to link to the NWS in a Skywarn® activity. It is working well in a temporary location. I need your help in acquiring a 2 meter and a 440 MHz radio (1 of each) to be use for

the link to the NWS and a 2 meter cross-band link. If you have one that you would be willing to loan or donate to the cause please let me know. If you are willing to help with the cost, that would be appreciated also. The repeater is working well but does us no good without the linking radios. My contact information is W8QN@ARRL.NET and 989-859-2882.

We will see you at the July 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

John Wolters  
W8QN  
Midland County EC/RO

## Dow Run Volunteers Needed

The Dow Run happens this year on Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, and runs from 7:30 am to noon. So far there are 30 operators signed up and I could use more. If you would like to participate but can only work for part of the time I can use you in a place that will allow you to leave early. If you have not signed up but want to participate please send me an

e-mail (w8qn@arrl.net) or call me (859-2882).

Responsibilities of each operator include reporting passing of the lead and trail vehicles and any injuries or emergencies that occur. If you want to help but are new and "don't want to mess up" I can pair you with an experienced operator. There are some freebies that will be

given to each volunteer and your name will be included in a prize drawing for all volunteers. We have had at least 3 winners in each of the last 5 years.

Hope to see you there.

John Wolters, W8QN  
Dow Run Coordinator

## Midland Hamfest Fast Approaching

The 36th annual Midland Hamfest is fast approaching—June 19<sup>th</sup> will be here before you know it, and this year's event looks to be a good one.

As of this writing several vendors have signed on; Dentronics will be back, dealer of the Alinco line of radios, as well local computer vendor John Copp. Parts merchant DebCo will be returning this year, with an expanded line, including various toroids and other hard-to-find parts. At least one vendor will be there with the ability to cut vinyl designs—we're in negotiations to make the Club logo available to be used as car window stickers.

The Salvation Army building gives us the ability to hold seminars concurrent with the Swap, and we'll be making use of that ability as we present "Standing Up For Standing Waves", by Bill Hays, AE4QL. Bill will be presenting the concept of SWR in a very visual manner, allowing attendees to actually see the effect of mismatches on transmission lines. If you've ever been confused by the concept, this is a demonstration you have to see.

Of course, the Club will be conducting licensing exams during the Hamfest, though the time has been shifted to 8:30am, shortly after the doors open.

For those still running "hollow state" or hybrid rigs, MARC will have its collection of vacuum tubes available for sale, and the bargain hunters will be glad to know that the trunk sale area will again be located on the east side of the parking lot.

Be sure to mark your calendars; you won't want to miss it.



## CQ Field Day!

Field Day will be here before you know it! As of this writing, there's less than a month and a half until one of the biggest events on the Ham Radio horizon. MARC has been an enthusiastic participant in this "non-contest" for many years, not so much trying to be the best in their category, but for the fun of it all

as well as a chance to get together and socialize. This year, we'll be shifting location to the grounds of Dow Diamond, so we should have plenty of elbow room to spread out and enjoy the activity.

If you'd like to come and join the fun, grab a chance to do some low key "contesting," or just want a chance to get

your feet wet on the HF bands, be sure to join us June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> at Dow Diamond. And if you've some equipment you can bring to the party—radios, antennas, masts or coax cable—please let anyone on the Field Day Committee know.

## MARC Night Scheduled at Dow Diamond

MARC members will remember last year's successful opportunity to do some public relations while enjoying a great baseball game as a part of the Great Lakes Loon's Community Organization of the Night promotion. Evidently, we made a favorable impression with the Loon's management, as we've been invited to participate in the promotion again this year, and the Club has decided to accept. MARC night has been scheduled for Wednesday, July 21<sup>st</sup>.

During the game, we'll be able to set up and man a display table on the mezzanine, will have our logo shown on the scoreboard and have a short promotional spot read over both the PA system and on WLUN 100.9 FM, the Loon's ESPN affiliate which will be covering the game.

As we did last year, we're planning on making this a Club outing and social event. Members and their guests will be responsible for their own tickets, but

we'll try to arrange to have first call on a block of seats so we can all sit together. As such, we'll need a head count of everyone who might be interested. A sign-up sheet will be passed around at the Club meetings, or you can email me at [kc8rtw@arrrl.net](mailto:kc8rtw@arrrl.net). We'd like to see as many members as possible attend and give the community a good impression of our group.

## FCC Proposes Additions, Changes to Amateur 5 MHz Allocation

ARRLWeb, 05/08/2010 — Acting on a 2006 Petition for Rulemaking filed by the ARRL, the FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), ET Docket No 10-98 to modify the rules that govern amateurs' secondary use of five channels in the 5 MHz frequency range known as 60 meters. The proposed changes would substitute a new channel for one that is seldom available because of occupancy by the fixed service, which is primary in this range. Also proposed is an increase in power from 50 to 100 W effective radiated...

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can be found beginning on page 8 of the NPRM.

"The ARRL is pleased that the Commission has opened this proceeding to increase the usefulness of the limited 5 MHz Amateur Service allocation," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. "We are gratified that the Commission and the NTIA agree that the responsible manner in which amateurs have been using the five USB channels warrants some expansion of privileges so that the Amateur Service can be even better prepared for service to the public."

## W1AW Offers Code Practice, Bulletins via EchoLink

(ARRL.ORG 04/20/2010) Audio from W1AW's CW code practices and CW/digital bulletins is now available using EchoLink via the W1AW Conference Server "W1AWBDCT." The 9:45 PM ET phone bulletin is currently unavailable via W1AWBDCT. The audio

is sent in real-time and runs concurrently with W1AW's regular transmission schedule. According to W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, this server is currently at an experimental stage: "Since the server is located at ARRL -- and uses the ARRL's Internet con-

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how many users can connect to W1AWBDCT via EchoLink. The current number of connections is set to 350. If the current system can properly handle these connections without adversely affecting the performance of the conference server, this number will be bumped up higher." All users who connect to the

conference server are muted. Please note that any questions or comments should not be sent via the "Text" window in EchoLink. Please send any questions or comments to [w1aw@arrl.org](mailto:w1aw@arrl.org).

## Field Day Loggers and Interfaces Pat Mullet, KC8RTW

Last year was the first time MARC experimented with computerized logging over a computer network. Keith Johnson, KB8SOE, obtained the license for the N3JFP *Field Day Network Logger* program for the Club.

Easy to use, the program allows you to enter all the required information quickly—call, frequency and exchange—with a minimum of strokes, advancing from one column to the next automatically without having to use the tab function; when you hit return to prepare for the next contact, it automatically stamps the time for the contact in the appropriate slot. Should you switch off with another operator, you can enter your initials so you can get credit for the contacts you've made.

All this information is stored in a file in the computer, which serves as a backup/recovery file. It is also sent across the computer network to the computer designated as the server, where it is merged into a master file. Any of these files may be exported in the ADIF standard format, but unfortunately, not the Cabrillo format which has become the standard for electronic submission of contest logs. Luckily, there are a number of stand-alone programs to perform the conversion.

All-in all, the program seemed to work well, though there were some rough spots when the wireless network had to be shut down to protect the router from the rain which plagued last year's event. Current plans are to use the Field Day Logger again this year, and as our copy is registered to the Club, we can have as many copies running at the same time as we need. If you're interested in experimenting with the program, just contact Keith.

But as they say, "Wait . . . there's more!"

The program has a number of bells

and whistles that weren't explored during our first effort. Each terminal allows the user to bring up a map showing the contesting sections contacted, graphs showing contacts per hour and other neat things, but, if your radio is capable of being interfaced with your computer, the program will automatically read and enter the frequency, the band, the mode and the power. It's all a matter of having the proper cable and setting up the program properly.

But what defines the proper cable?

Most computer-rig interface cables are simply *level converters*, changing the standard computer levels to the levels needed to drive the radio circuitry. They can roughly be sorted into three categories:

**Icom/Alinco/Ten-Tec:** CI-V standard—TX Data & RX Data tied together/mono pin 1/8" 3.5mm plug. Output of Icom cable can be paralleled to control up to 4 radios, as each have individual control addresses.

**Yaesu CAT cable:** similar to Icom, but TX Data & RX Data not tied together/Stereo pin 1/8" 3.5mm plug standard for handhelds, a variety of connectors for mobile and base rigs

**Kenwood IF-232 cable.** Though the operating principles are similar, different control signals are used and polarities are different.

If purchased from Icom, CI-V CT-17 interfaces are pricey, listed in my most recent Universal Radio catalog at \$186. The version for handhelds and mobile radios, the OPC-478/OPC-478UC "programming" or interface cables, will also perform the interface function with the HF rigs and list for \$35-\$50. But the same cable can be had on eBay for less than \$10.00 in either DB-9 or USB connections—look for "Icom Programming Cables."

Yaesu cables are operationally the

same, with identical circuitry. Where they differ is the connector on the rig side of the cable. As stated before, where the Icom standard has TX and RX data on the same line, Yaesu uses separate lines. If you want to control multiple Yaesu radios at the same time, you'll need to purchase multiple cables. If you just want to program multiple radios, a work-around is to buy one cable and make a number of adapter cables to fit your different Yaesu rigs. Again, you can find these cables on eBay for a lot less than the "official" versions, but because of the many different configurations, the price range is much greater.

One hint, if you have multiple brands of radios, and you only want to keep one hooked up to the computer, but want the ability to program the others from time-to-time, consider the RadioShack 20-047 USB Scanner programming cable, which lists for about \$36.00. [See *QST Hints and Kinks*, pg 78, Oct. 2008] Though meant as an interface cable for most of the RadioShack scanners, as well as those of GRE America, this cable performs admirably with either Yaesu or Icom radios. The included stereo to mono adapter included in the package allows it to be directly connected to Icom/Alinco/Ten-Tec radios, while the cable's stereo 3.5mm end allows either direct connection to Yaesu rigs so equipped, or with easily constructed adapters, the majority of the remaining Yaesu rigs that will accept computer control. A few of these rigs are set up for direct RS-232 level interfaces, requiring either a standard serial cable or a USB to serial converter. As an added benefit, if you enjoy watching meter needles dance and lights blink, the clear plastic case housing the cable's circuitry allows you to see the red and green LEDs on the TX and RX lines. One caveat, however, if you're running Win-

# MIDLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB HAMFEST

## SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 2010

Admission \$5.00  
Tables \$5.00  
Trunk Sales \$5.00

Talk in:  
W8KEA  
+147.00 MHz

[www.w8kea.org](http://www.w8kea.org)

**VE Exam**  
**Registration 8:00 am**  
**Testing starts at 8:30 am**

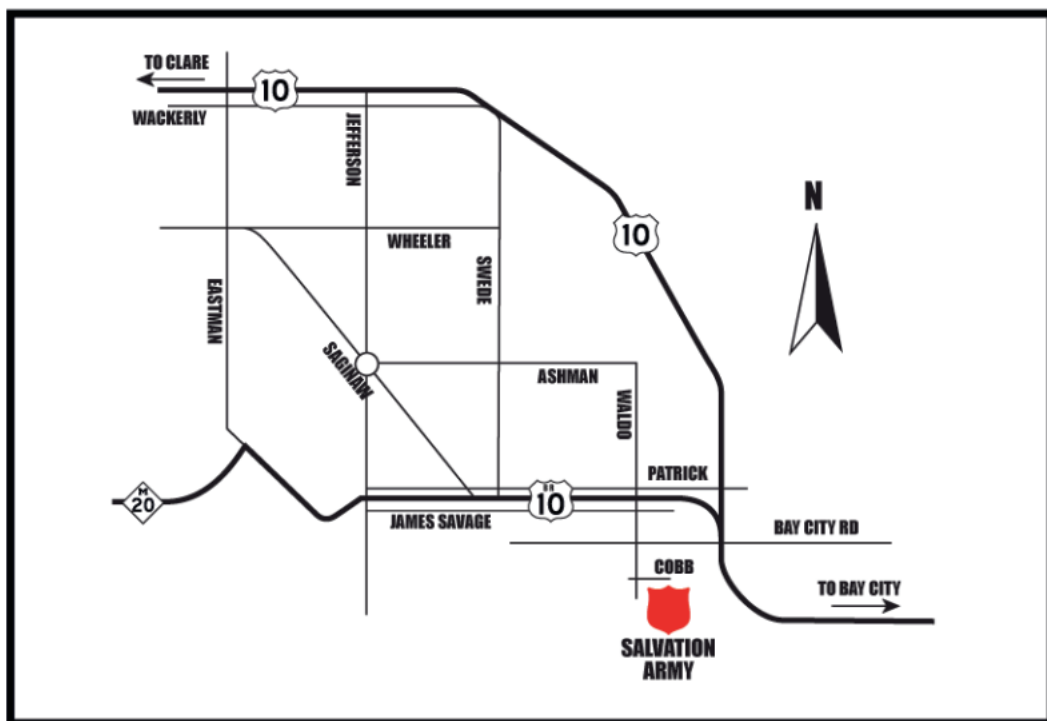
**Presentation Schedule TBA**

**For Information &  
Table Reservations:**

**MARC Hamfest**  
**PO Box 1049**  
**Midland, MI 48642**  
**or call**

**Keith, KB8SOE at**  
**(989) 488-4337**  
**email: [kb8soe@arrrl.net](mailto:kb8soe@arrrl.net)**

## SALVATION ARMY BUILDING 330 WALDO, MIDLAND, MI



**Featuring a must-see seminar entitled**  
**"Standing Up For Standing Waves"**  
**by Bill Hays, AE4QL**

**New & Used Amateur Radio Equipment**  
**Parts & Coax & Connectors**  
**Large Selection of Vacuum Tubes**



An ARRL  
Sactioned  
Hamfest



# Midland Amateur Radio Club

**Invites You to Field Day 2010**



**2:00 pm Saturday, June 26  
through  
Noon, Sunday, June 27  
at**



**Dow Diamond  
825 East Main Street, Midland**

**Come Watch • Come Participate • Come Get on the Air  
Learn How You Can  
Explore the World with Amateur Radio  
Everybody Welcome • No Charge**

**Demonstrations of Different Communications Techniques  
from Classic Morse Code to  
Cutting Edge Digital Voice and Satellite Communications  
All Without Cellular or Internet Technonlogy**

**For More Information Contact:  
Keith Johnson, (989) 488-4337  
Talk-In Repeater:  
W8KEA - 147.000+ MHz  
[www.w8kea.org](http://www.w8kea.org)**



**AMATEUR RADIO  
Goodwill • Service • Fun  
[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)**





dows Vista or Windows 7, odds are that you'll need to obtain the latest drivers from the chipset manufacturer; they are not available for download from RadioShack.

The Kenwood IF-232 interface has been discontinued, but was an interface

box requiring cables to both the computer and the radio. Certain early radios required an interface chipset be installed to utilize the unit. You can find direct connect IF-232 cables on eBay for \$40.00.

One of the side benefits Field Day

presents us is a chance to dabble in new things. If you're new to the concept of either computer logging or computer/radio interfaces, this should provide a golden opportunity to get your feet wet. If you've more questions, contact either Keith, KB8SOE or myself.

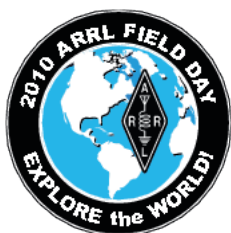
## Swap 'n' Shop

**For Sale:** Excess toroid cores, Fair-Rite 2.4" OD type #31 mix @ \$5.90 each. Ideal for baluns 160 through 6 meters. You can build a good current balun for about the price of a cheap commercial one and get far better isolation. I purchased a 100 of the things and will only use about half. Roger (K8RI)

**For Sale:** Three Force-12 antennas. C19-XR for 10, 15, and 20 meters; WARC-7 for 12, 17, and 30 meters; EF-240S for 40 meters. Together they've worked 310 DX entities. They will be coming off my tower soon, so a quick purchase could minimize the disassembly.

\$500 each or all three for \$1200. Contact Stan, K6VWE, 989-837-7252.

**Wanted:** I'm looking for the drop-in battery charger that was supplied with the old Radio Shack handheld model HTX-202. Email or phone W8WOJ



# ARRL FIELD DAY 2010 June 26-27

[www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/locator.php](http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/locator.php)

## MARC Vital Statistics

### Memberships Expiring in May 2010

KB8LQM

W8CVZ

### Memberships Expiring in June 2010

N8CGP  
N8KRL

NX8A  
W8LSS

WD8AXR  
WA8KJR

KA8HQW  
WD8SDX

### Memberships Expiring in July 2010

AB8TJ

N8FUZ

Current Active Club Membership 67

### Birthdays Celebrated in May/June 2010

KD8MRC 5/12  
KD8FSI 5/12  
KD8MQZ 5/18  
KC8MUD 5/19

WD8AXR 5/25  
WD8SDX 5/27  
W8LSS 6/2  
K8RI 6/16

KB8VSS 6/21  
KD8HIH 6/23  
KD8IWG 6/23  
KB4EIZ 6/27

KC8URV 6/28  
WD8ODG 6/30

### Anniversaries Celebrated in May/June 2010

KB8QWQ and Kate 5/16  
N8CGP and N8KRL 6/05  
W8SEX and Myrna 6/13

WA8LQD and Kathy 6/16  
N8STF and Mary 6/16  
W8LSS and WD8AXR 6/19

NX8A and Kristina 6/24  
KB8PGV and Connie 6/27  
KD8HID and ??? 6/28

AA8EJ and Beverly 6/28

Information is from data received 5/7/2010

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