



W8KEA

MARC



MIDLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
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www.w8kea.org

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LIFE MEMBERS

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

Midland County Public Service Net, Thursdays at 9 PM
W8KEA Repeater — 147.000 MHz+ PL 103.5 • W8QN Repeater — 443.325 MHz+ PL 103.5
W8KEA Digipeater — 145.090 MHz

Next ARES®/RACES Meeting — Thursday August 4, 2011, 6:00 PM
Next CLUB Meeting — Thursday August 4, 2011, 7:30 PM
Salvation Army Building, 330 Waldo St.
Talk-in 147.000+

August 2011

View from the Top of the Tower

Lee Hodges, KC8ITI

I hope you had a chance to put your feet up and relax after our hectic month of June. I know Linda and I did by heading to the lake. We spent a week over the July 4th holiday enjoying family and friends. We did a couple of cookouts, hiked in the woods and spent time on the lake fishing. Many more laid back sessions like that and I may begin to find out what retirement is all about. I can only hope.

The 2011 Midland Amateur Radio Club swap was a success. Thanks to all of you that work so hard to make this event possible. Special thanks to our swap chairperson Keith, KB8SOE for all of his efforts. As it turned out, we had only a couple of unsold tables in the gym. Also, we had a good turnout in our trunk sales area. The seminars and demonstrations were well received. According to John, W8QN we did a little better financially than last year which is good news. If you attended the swap, I hope you enjoyed yourself and found that special item you were looking for.

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



We were busy at the testing session at the swap. We had 17 candidates appear for testing with 10 VEs helping with this session. We ended up with 4 new Technicians, 5 upgrades to General and 3 upgrades to Extra. The three upgrades to Extra were graduates from our recent Extra class. Congratulations to all of our suc-

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@arrrl.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@arrrl.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@arrrl.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.arrrl.org/arrrlvec/exam-search.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@arrrl.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@arrrl.net) or Lee, KC8ITI (kc8iti@arrrl.net)

cessful candidates and thanks to all of the VEs that helped with this exam session.

Field Day was on June 25th and 26th and we ran as 5A Michigan. I was apprehensive about our site this year at the Washington Mall, but other than a lack of natural antenna supports it worked out pretty well. Thanks to all of you that helped with setup, tear down and especially those of you that took time to get on the air. It seems like we had quite a few people this year that just came by to observe our operations. We even had a few people that were just passing by that took a few minutes to find out what was going on. Thanks to Dorie, N8WTQ and her crew for another fine effort to keep us fed over the weekend. Band conditions were not the best but there were a few surprises. One surprise was that 10 meters was open late into Saturday evening. As I write this, I don't have any data on how many contacts we made or the number of points we accumulated. We did have a couple casualties this year. The first one was rather minor. We lost a fuse in one of the club's power supplies. The down side is that you can't find a store early on Sunday morning that has a 250 volt 6 amp fuse. I know because Linda and I tried to find one. I plan on putting together kits for each of our club radios with such things as spare fuses. The second casualty is a bit more serious. On Sunday, we lost a winding on our club generator. Testing indicated that one side of the generator was only putting out 80 volts AC and the frequency was very unstable. We finished up Field Day using the good side of the generator. We discussed at the club meeting whether we should try to repair a 60-year-old generator or replace it with a new unit. We've got a group investigating our options on this issue. Just like any emergency situation, some things worked well and other things need some work but all in all I had fun at Field Day and I hope you did too.

I had every intention of attending the Michigan Summer Family Outing hosted by ARRL Michigan Section but as I

looked at the agenda and the amount of work I had to do around the house, I made the decision not to make the trip to the Woodlands Campground. John, WB8RCR reported the news I missed by not attending. Jim Weaver, K8JE Great Lakes Division Director has asked Dale Williams, WA8EFK to run for Great Lakes Division Vice Director. This leaves the Michigan Section Manager position open so expect some changes in the Michigan Section leadership.

Speaking of elections, our club bylaws call for club elections at the September meeting. Elected offices are President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. If you are interested in any of these four positions or you know someone that is willing to serve let any of the current club officers know. As stated previously, I do not intend to run for reelection at this time.

I'll wrap it up for this month. We had the pleasure of having our granddaughter Tiffany, KD8OLD spend a week with us. Her mother Brandy, KC8TXS said that Tiffy needed to spend some time "playing radio" with Grandpa. What an opportunity! It was fun having someone that was curious and interested in everything. I hope Tiffany had a good time. I know I did. Tiffany had a chance to work Field Day with her club in Cadillac. It was decided that she should have her own rig and work 10 meters with her own call sign. I understand that she was able to make 40 plus contacts all on her own. What an experience for a 12 year old ham. Tiffy saw the HTX 100 10 meter rig I have sitting on the shelf and decided I should bring it up to her place and we could set it up for her to use. I told her that we could do that but it would be more fun if she and her mother would get busy and upgrade their licenses to General. That way both of them would have access to all of the HF bands. We'll see what happens.

Best regards, Lee - KC8ITI

MARC Minutes Linda Hodges, KC8MUD

The meeting was brought to order by Lee KC8ITI at 7:35 P.M. with 27 in attendance. A sign-in sheet was passed around and introductions were made.

Any additions or corrections to the newsletter should be brought to the attention of the secretary.

- The treasurer's report was tabled un-

til the next meeting.

- Swap follow-up- Keith KB8SOE- All help is very much appreciated. We had a very good swap meet. A good mix of vendors, good attendance and excellent seminars. Keith also added a financial report which included previous swaps.

- Newsletter- Keith KB8SOE- Keith outlined how the newsletter is produced and distributed.

- Equipment-Keith KB8SOE- some of Michael's KB4EIZ (SK) equipment is for sale and will soon go to eBay. If you are interested in seeing it or would like more information please contact Keith KB8SOE.

- EC/RO Report- Lapeer is having a Triathlon on July 17th. Operators are needed to help.

- Field Day- Lengthy Field Day discussion included attendance, site prep, equipment and operator protocol. Our day ended early because of a generator malfunction.

- Generator update- Denny WD8BPT- Generator is being evaluated. Discussion began about getting a new generator. A motion was made by Pat KD8IVZ to purchase a new generator. Motion tabled until more research is done and Denny gets the verdict back about our current generator.

- Lupton- Lee KC8ITI- Section Outing at the Lupton Campground started today.

- Larry K8SQB- Has been moved to Bicford Cottage Room #314 He has no

telephone but you can call his son Al at 631-4211 for updates or to make arrangements to see Larry. The address is at 101 Joseph Dr. and the phone number there is 835-5300. He would like visitors if you have time.

- Convention- Lee KC8ITI- the Hamfest in Findley on September 11th is in conjunction with the Great Lakes Convention.

- VE Sessions- Denny N8ERF- Nine volunteers, 14 attendees with 11 passing. There was one call sign mix-up but that was taken care of. Congratulations to John Hall for his upgrade to General.

- Water Tower update- Del WD8FYR- Discussion about new water tower and antenna possibilities near his home.

- Dorie N8WTQ had kitchen tools left over from Field Day.

- Barrels-Lee KC8ITI- the Field Day barrels are at Lee's house. A day will be set up to sort and organize. See Lee for more details.

NET Controls:

July 14th Keith KB8SOE

July 21st Pat KC8RTW

July 28th Dennis N8ERF

An adjournment motion was made by Larry N8CGP and seconded by Keith KB8SOE.

The meeting ended at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda KC8MUD

MARC Secretary

Upcoming Events

9/11 Findlay Hamfest/
GL Division Convention
9/17 MARC Picnic

Michigan Hamfests

8/6 Escanaba
8/14 Lapeer
8/21 Port Huron
8/27 Owosso
9/10 Wyoming
9/18 Adrian
10/16 Kalamazoo
10/23 Sterling Heights

* denotes tentative date based on 2010 event

Area Nets

SVARA; Mn, 147.24 MHz, 2100 ET
Gladwin; Tu, 147.18 MHz, 2000 ET
BAARC; Tu, 145.31 MHz, 2100 ET
Canadian Lks, Wed, 146.8, 2100 ET
Edmore, Th, 146.8, 2000 ET
MARC; Th, 147.00 MHz, 2100 ET
District 3 ARPSC; Su, 145.31 MHz, 1830 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

My Two Cents

Pat Mullet, KC8RTW

Well, June is past us now, and I, along with the rest of the Midland Amateur Radio Club can take a moment or two to catch our collective breaths.

The Swap went better than I think any of us thought it would; the vendor space on the main floor was filled, the vendors were satisfied, and the trunk sale area had some great deals. Personally, I came away with a new VHF/UHF antenna that should give me a vast improvement over the dual-band J-pole I'm currently using. I plan on putting it up in the next few weeks, and the combination of some actual gain and some lower loss coax should get me into more of the area repeaters. As a bonus, once I get the proper diplexer, I'll be able to work 6 meters, too.

Field Day was fun, as always, despite

a number of problems. The SATERN van's hf system was late getting on the air due to problems with the autotuner. After John, W8QN made a quick trip home and grabbed his autotuner, we were up and running. Early Sunday morning, the Club's venerable generator lost a winding, producing less than 90 volts, shutting down most of rigs except for Steve, W8AY and John, KB8PGW's station, powered by Bill, AB8JF's generator.

I thought that Steve, W8AY had the most impressive Field Day antenna farm. Using the tripod base featured in the June issue of QST, he erected a 24 foot mast using the four foot military surplus fiberglass masts so readily available from eBay and other sources. Using that as the support for one end of a dipole, he tied

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.

the other end off to portable Rohn tower sitting on a custom-made tilt-up, drive-on baseplate held in place by the driver's side front tire of his SUV. Perched on top of the Rohn tower was a rotator surmounted by a three element yagi. Quite a smart looking arrangement, and since I've a pair of those mast kits, I'm going to have to look into getting a couple of those tripod bases fabricated for myself.

Things went pretty well in the SATERN van where I was operating 40 meters. For the most part, if I could hear a station, I could work them, though there were a number of pile-ups I just could not get through and had to give up on. On more than one occasion I could hear Ryan, KB8RCR working a station I was trying to work, but despite my efforts to shift off frequency so we could work each other, he evidently didn't hear me.

This was the first year I'd operated straight through the night, and ended up working a respectable 116 contacts using the search and pounce method—running

up and down the band, working anyone calling "CQ Field Day". Next year, however, I think I'm going to team up with a partner, swapping operating and logging duties every two hours while we camp on one frequency, just to see how many contacts we can rack up.

Another thing I'd like to try next year, something that was brought up at the July meeting, is to try and implement a site-wide logging network. Almost all of the stations this year were working with computers and the Club does have the license rights to N3FJP's Field Day Network logging software. This license allows every member of the Club operating during Field Day to install and use the software on their computer once the license code is entered. All that is required after that is either an Ethernet or wireless network connection. The computer designated as server compiles a joint log of all activity including dupe sheets, bands worked and operators. After the contest is over, a couple of key clicks generates both summary and dupe

sheets for submittal.

While operating, each computer generates a list of sections worked along with a map, and the server compiles an aggregate list and map. The software also allows the different stations to pass messages to each other, allowing easier coordination of who is working which band. And, of course, the "dupe" warning function allows each operator to save time by not working contacts already in the log. It really is an easy program to master—I've been using both the networked and stand-alone versions the last few years. Perhaps early next year—sometime before the hectic June meeting—we can arrange a practice session to get the software installed, networked and get everyone familiar with the system.

Well, it seems that I've been rattling off long enough. Hope to hear you on the air.

73, Pat, KC8RTW

Field Day 2011 Summary

John Tallman, KB8PGW

Another ARRL Field Day has come and gone, and MARC's efforts have to go into the logbooks as a success. The Club operated as a 5A (five transceivers operating from non-commercial power) from the former Farmer Jack parking lot.

We made 693 contacts with 65 ARRL sections in 45 states and four Canadian provinces, with the following operators submitting logs: Bill French, AB8JF; John Tallman, KB8PGW; Lee

Hodges, KC8ITI; Pat Mullet, KC8RTW; Jack Hutcheson, NX8A; John Wolters, W8QN; Steve Linley, WA8Y and Del Lafevor WB8FYR.

The breakdown by band is as follows:

80m CW- 32 (KB8PGW NX8A WA8Y)
40m CW-156 (KB8PGW WA8Y)
20m CW- 59 (all WA8Y)
15m CW- 25 (20 WA8Y, 5 KB8PGW)
20m CW - 59 (WA8Y)

75m SSB - 80 (40 W8QN 49 KC8ITI)
40m SSB - 116 (all KC8RTW)
20m SSB - 79 (74 AB8JF, 6 WB8FYR)
15m SSB - 39
10m SSB - 72 (WA8Y)
6m SSB - 15 (WA8Y)

Note some of the subtotals do not add up, as in 75 SSB 40+49 does not equal 80. I gave each operator credit for a contact if it was a shared duplicate.

73, KB8PGW

MARC Fall 2011 Picnic

Mark your calendar on September 17th as the date for the MARC Fall Picnic. Bring a dish to pass, your table service, drinks and anything you would

like to grill. Charcoal grills will be fired up for your use. We anticipate using the Homer Township Park again on South Homer Rd. but this has not yet been

verified so the location may be subject to change. Plan on meeting around 11 AM for an afternoon of fellowship.

"Pay What You Think It's Worth" Sale Lee, KC8ITI

Over the last few months a lot of small bits and pieces have been donated to the club. I really need to get my basement cleaned out so.... On Saturday, August 13th I plan to drag everything out for your inspection and selection. I'll have a

couple of jars on the table so you can donate "What you think its worth to you" to the club. I plan on having everything out by 10 AM and will stay open until ??? I may add some of my own stuff to the pot. If you have anything you would

like to get rid of by donating it to the club for this sale, let me know.

Lee - KC8ITI

ARRL Michigan Section Manager Stepping Down

Some of you probably have already heard that Dale Williams, WA8EFK, plans to step down as Section Manager. I thought you might be interested in a little background.

Back in January, Dale asked his staff whether he should run for re-election when his term is up at the end of the year. Dale will have been Section Manager for ten years and felt perhaps it was time for new blood. His staff unanimously asked him to stay, and he agreed.

Meanwhile, Great Lakes Division Director Jim Weaver, K8JE and the Board have been pushing for changes at headquarters. HQ has had some pretty poor performances on high profile projects lately; LoTW and the website are two obvious examples. Most of

the Board, with Jim's leadership, has been pressing for more accountability at HQ. Getting Kay Cragie, N3KN in as president is a step, but there is a lot more to do, and it will take years.

Jim, however, has been having health problems and doesn't think he can stay on the board long enough to see this through. So he called Dale and asked whether Dale would run for Vice-Director to get familiar with the issues and be in a position to run for Director after Jim's next term expires.

Dale shared with Jim that he had told his staff he would stay and didn't want to leave as SM without his staff's agreement that it was a good idea. So Jim asked and got permission to speak with the staff members.

After discussing the issue

with Jim (at least in my case at some length), Dale's staff agreed that Dale running for vice-Director was the preferred option. We hate to lose Dale as SM, but we all understand the greater good.

So this fall we should see some new faces running for SM. At this point we have no idea who they will be, but I am confident we will see some good candidates. Many of us hope that Scott Bicknell, W1BIC will run. He is currently the Affiliated Club Coordinator. I wouldn't be surprised to see Dan Romanchik, KB6NU run again. Dan is Dale's ASM for Training. Surely there will be people I don't know.

In any case, there will be change. We just have to wait and see.

73, John McDonough, WB8RCR

Space Weather Broadcasts Continue on WWV and WWVH

(ARRLWeb—06/30/2011) In April 2011, the Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC) informed the public that as of September 6, 2011, it would no longer broadcast its geophysical alert message on WWV and WWVH. The ARRL has now learned that the SWPC has changed

its mind and will keep broadcasting these messages that inform listeners of the solar flux, the mid-latitude A and K indices and space weather storms, both current and predicted. Due to listener feedback, the SWPC is considering updating the broadcast; in addition to providing the cur-

rent daily solar flux at 2800 MHz, the SWPC is evaluating adding more frequent observations at 2695 MHz. According to the SWPC website, other improvements to the message content will also be evaluated.

The Republic of South Sudan Is Now a DXCC Entity

(ARRLWeb—07/14/2011) At 10:18 AM (EDT) on Thursday, July 14, the UN General Assembly met to vote on whether or not to admit the Republic of South Sudan as its 193rd member state. The Republic of South Sudan was admitted by a vote of acclamation and is now a member of the United Nations. Immediately following the General Assembly meeting, the flag of the Republic of South Sudan flew for the first time in front of the UN, ceremoniously marking its membership in the UN. Now that the Republic of South Sudan is a member of the United Nations, the new country is now a DXCC entity by way of Section II, 1(a) of

the DXCC rules. The DXCC Desk will begin immediately accepting QSOs for this new entity, with a start date of July 14, 2011.

According to DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, the Honor Roll numbers move from 340 to 341 for the Top of the Honor Roll, and for Honor Roll it becomes 332. "The deadline for the Honor Roll and annual listings is December 31, so you must submit the new entity to DXCC by then in order to retain your Honor Roll status," Moore explained. "For Logbook of The World (LoTW), you may submit all your QSOs with the Republic of South Sudan stations anytime. There is

no need to hold them out of your log or do anything differently from what you already have been doing. You do not need to assign country names or identifiers. After we issue certificates to the Republic of South Sudan license holders, LoTW will make matches and assign the correct entities automatically."

As of July 14, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has not announced a prefix block for the Republic of South Sudan.

For programmers and others who require use of the DXCC entity code, the code assigned to Republic of South Sudan is 521.

Explore the World with Amateur Radio!

SATERN Gets New Director

(ARRLWeb—06/28/2011) After serving as Director of the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) for more than 23 years, Major Patrick E. McPherson, WW9E, is stepping down. Major Rick Shirran VE3NUZ, of Toronto, Ontario, has been appointed as the new Director. McPherson—an ARRL member—founded SATERN in June 1988.

“I congratulate Major Shirran on his appointment as leader of the SATERN program,” McPherson said. “I thank Salvation Army leadership for their confidence

in the program, for their wisdom in ensuring the perpetuation of the program and for their unflagging support of my efforts administrating the program. I commend them on the choice of Major Shirran. He has been a long time proponent of Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services and its SATERN component. He understands well the culture of Amateur Radio, and he has proven disaster expertise in every field of disaster endeavor.”

Shirran, who received his Amateur Radio license in 1975, served 12 years as

a member of the Royal Canadian Navy as a Radio Operator and Communications Technician. He is a Commissioned Officer/Pastor in The Salvation Army Canada and Bermuda Territory. Prior to his appointment, Shirran served as the Emergency Disaster Services Director and SATERN Director for The Salvation Army in Canada and Bermuda Territory.

Recently, SATERN helped provide logistical and communications support after the May tornadoes that swept through Joplin, Missouri.

Technical Topics and Information

(ARRL Contest Update—June 22, 2011) Trying to keep a straight path when deploying a Beverage antenna in heavy brush or undergrowth (see this blog < <http://www.n2nl.net/?p=375>> by N2NL/KH2 for an idea of the problem) is a lot easier with My Tracks, a free Android phone GPS app. (Thanks, José CT1BOH)

Recent solar activity predictions have been dismaying to fans of 15 meters and up (while the low-band ops have been secretly cackling with glee). The most recent ARRL Propagation Bulletin ARLP024 contains a host of links about the reports and dissenting opinions. In the meantime, just get on the air and make contacts anyway!

Dave N3XUD enthusiastically endorses WinGrid by W4SM as a great

grid square tool. The free program calculates grid squares from latitudes and longitudes, the reverse, and calculates distances and headings from two sets of lat/long or grid squares. There are a number of other useful programs there, as well.

Knot-knot! Who's there? Alan K2ACK and his collection of Wikipedia links for useful rope tricks; the Figure Eight Loop and the Figure Eight knot, the Double Bowline (that poor rabbit must be going nuts), and the Butterfly.

So you finally bought that neat coax connector crimping tool and die set. But which to use for which connector? Here is a size chart < http://www.rfparts.com/picts/1505_chart.jpg> that might be of help in selecting the right crimper die for the right RF

connector. There are also standard die sets on the RF Parts and Tescos websites. (Thanks, Bert VE3NR and Les W2LK)

Bill N5AB reports success in using an old-fashioned screen door spring at one end of an antenna wire, where the support rope meets the tree, to provide some flex for a wire antenna. He uses a length of rope between the antenna and the metal spring to prevent any undesired coupling between the two.

Roger K8RI is building some adapter plates to mount Yaesu thrust bearings, which are metric, to Rohn 25 accessory shelves, which are not metric. This process is fairly easy to adapt to other similar needs. <http://www.rogerhalstead.com/ham_files/Adapter.htm>

More Technical Topics and Information

(ARRL Contest Update—July 6, 2011) Jim W6RMK reminds us of the ubiquitous and inexpensive “grounding bar” used inside a circuit breaker box. Each bar has plenty of holes with clamp screws on each one. Used with an anti-oxidation compound, these make great grounding busses for radials and ground wires.

And as far as laying those radials...why dig when your lawn will bury the radials for you? Cut your grass very short - then within hours lay the radials by hand, held down by galvanized landscape pins (a short piece

of galvanized wire bent double works just fine) and with the end of each wire wrapped around a pin pushed deep. Set the mower a bit higher for the next few cuttings. Water to keep the sod growing at a fast rate - if needed. In four weeks or so all radials will self-bury and be gone under the sod. After five years the radials are down about 6 inches - all on their own. Tim K3LR also came up with a great way to bury coax - since the let-the-yard-grow-over-it technique doesn't work well with coax. He recommends using a pressure-washer to cut the trench. It does have a little tendency to

splatter but neither will it cut buried cables like a ditch-digging machine. Don't ask him how he knows this. (Thanks, Tim K3LR)

Julius N2WN had to pull some ground rods while relocating a couple of verticals. He uses copper tubing but this would work with rods too. Take a pipe wrench and gently break the rod loose by twisting back and forth. Once loose, apply a slight upward pressure and basically “unscrew” the rods from the ground.

Wanted - MARC Newsletters

Looking for any newsletters prior to
January 1984 as well as the following:

February 1984
March 1984
May 1984

June 1984
July 1984
August 1984
September 1984
August 1985

September 1985
January 1986

If you happen to have any of these
newsletters contact Dennis - N8ERF or
Lee - KC8ITI

Swap 'n' Shop

For Sale: New heavy climbing belt-
\$125. New Radio work bag, Antenna
Analyzer & much more-\$400.00. Con-
tact Diana, W8CVZ.

For Sale: Yaesu FT897D. \$700.

Wanted to Buy: Power tubes such
as but not limited to 4CX series,
3CX400 and larger. 4-250 and larger, 3-
500 and larger. Sockets for same and par-
ticularly for 4CX1500B and
4CX3000A7. Old Repeater amp that
used a Push pull pair of tubes. I could

use some 7/8" to 1.5" Helix with con-
nectors, but need a minimum of 200' for
each run. Looking for HV power trans-
formers in the range of 2400, 2600,
2800, and 3000 VAC, 2KVA and up as
well as 800VAC to 1 KV AC for screen
supplies. 6V@10A (4CX1500B), 9V @
8.5-9A (FU728F), 9.0V @ 41.5A
(4CX3000A7), and 10V@10A, filament
transformers. High power tuning caps in-
cluding vac variables.

Contact Roger, K8RI (K8RI@roger-
halstead.com)

Wanted to Buy: I am looking to
buy some equipment in good working or-
der. If you have any of these items you
would like to sell at a bargain price,
please contact me. OK, a reasonable
price. Oscilloscope – at least 30 MHz;
VTVM; Audio Frequency Generator; RF
Frequency Generator; Spectrum Analyz-
er.

Dennis, N8ERF 989-636-7704

MARC Vital Statistics

Memberships Expiring in March

K6VWE

K8VB

KB8PGV

Memberships Expiring in April

None

Memberships Expiring in May

KA8EZT
KC8IHB
KC8ZMQ
KD8HIH

WA8LQD
WW9E
KB9YSQ

Current Active Club Membership 68

Birthdays Celebrated in March/April

W8SEX 3/4
KB8VSU 3/9
NQ8T 3/15
KC8RTU 3/16
KC8RTW 3/17
K8VB 3/19

KC8FDM 3/26
WD8OEU 3/27
W8QN 3/31
KC8TQS 4/9
KC8SRT 4/11
KD8CUX 4/17

N8KFE 4/18
KC8IHB 4/19
W8AWS 4/19
KD8HIC 4/27
WA8LQD 4/27
KD8MQX 4/28

W8CVZ 4/28
KA8EZT 4/28
N8JBW 4/30
KD8HIG 4/??

Anniversaries Celebrated in March/April

K8RRB and ??? 3/4
KC8ITI and KC8MUD 3/6
WD8BPT and Melody 3/13

KB4EIZ and KD8HIC 3/24
WD8OEU and Grace 04/17

Information is from data received 3/8/2011

Any corrections or questions contact John, W8QN

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