



W8KEA



MARC

MIDLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
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www.w8kea.org

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	Pat Mullet KC8RTW	(989) 828-6657
Swap Committee	Keith Johnson KB8SOE / Ch	(989) 488-4337
	Jeff Mowery N8KS	(989) 615-3715
	Pat Mullet KC8RTW	(989) 828-6657

LIFE MEMBERS

Jack W8PHG (SK), Larry K8SQB, Don W8WOJ, Lee KC8ITI, Dennis N8ERF, 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 February 2, 2012, 6:00 PM
Next CLUB Meeting — Thursday February 2, 2012, 7:30 PM
Salvation Army Building, 330 Waldo Ave.
Talk-in 147.000+

February 2012

Static Discharge

Kevin Martin, KD8QAM

I hope that everyone is enjoying the snow and cold weather. Sledding and ice skating are at the top of the list this month. I wanted to roll a snowman with my daughter, but the snow was powder and we couldn't get it to pack.

I have a ton of radio projects to finish and a few more reasons to let them slide until spring. I was trying to hurry and tie into the gutter for a base antenna while the weather was nice. I also was looking to get my Yaesu FT-857 fully wired into my car. With so many reasons not to go outside I have been scouring the internet for Field Day ideas. I have been mainly looking at an antenna mast to start with. I started with new versus used, and then looked at building one. I still haven't committed to anything, but things seem to be moving me toward a PVC mast like those which Lee KC8ITI had used at the last Field Day. I plan on running a dipole of some sort that I could use for something other than Field Day with ease and won't cost a lot. I am still looking into flag poles and other ideas. Optimal height is going to be the main concern.

I am also collecting information on solar cells for an off-the-grid station. Some of the online videos and blogs have some neat

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



ideas ranging from go-packs all the way up to running most of their homes. I think it is a thought most of us have had on the back burner for a while, but this month's issue of *QST* brought it to the

forefront.

It was great to see so many people at the last club meeting, especially all the new faces. If there are things that we could do better or should do differently

at the meetings please contact a board member. I can be contacted via email at cherryredirocz@sbcglobal.net or 989-513-0100.

MARC Minutes

Linda Hodges, KC8MUD

MARC MEETINGS

Mark Rodgers, KC8GRQ, 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 Mark at (517) 672-1060, or via e-mail: kc8grq@yahoo.com

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.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, or have trouble with delivery via USPS, 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 Kevin (cherryredirocz@sbcglobal.net)

The meeting was called to order by Kevin KD8QAM at 7:30 P.M. with 30 in attendance. Introductions were made and a sign-in sheet was passed around. Welcome to the new guys Ben KD8RMG and Martin KD8LUZ.

If you have any corrections or additions to make to the minutes please bring them to the attention of the secretary.

- Treasurer's Report- Tabled until next month.

- EC/RO Report- Chris KB8UIH- There is a Packet Test at the County Services Building on Jan. 28th, 10:00 A.M. until Noon.

Mark April 28th on your calendars for the MS Walk.

This low impact event needs about 10 or 15 operators from 8:00 A.M. until Noon. The Dow Run date has been changed to May 19th this year. If you are not going to Dayton and can help on that day please see Chris.

- Old Business- The status of the ARRL *QST* Magazine subscription for the Dow Library is still being checked on.

John W8QN and Del WB8FYR climbed the new Edenville Water Tower to check on antenna mountings. Del shared some neat pictures. Dennis N8ERF and Denny WD8BPT are building needed equipment to mount antennas.

- New Business- Pat KC8RTW- Pat found a deal on vinyl banners. After some discussion Pat made a motion to buy three banners to be used for the Hamfest, Field Day and VE sessions for \$20.00 each plus tax. The motion was amended to buy six banners for \$20.00 each plus tax. Seconded by Cindy KD8JQY. Passed

- Radio-Keith KB8SOE- One of our radios has been disconnected from the Red Cross Building due to remodeling. After a short discussion it was decided that Denny WD8BPT would retrieve the radio and coax until further notice.

- Swap- Keith KB8SOE -Only six months left to think about Swap ideas. Please let Keith know if you have any

ideas for seminars or presentations. The date is June 16th. Linda KC8MUD will confirm date with the Salvation Army Building.

- Field Day- Ryan KB8RCR- Looking for volunteers to serve on Field Day 2012 Committee. A short discussion about our next Field Day location. Possible sites are back to same place as last year or Bill's AB8JF house

- Show and Tell- Dennis N8ERF- Dennis shared his knowledge of how to build a smart phone charger. They are small and easy to build using AA batteries.

- General Class-Lee KC8ITI- Lee to begin his class in the first part of February.

- Fox Hunt- Mark KD8GRQ- Mark would like to organize a fox hunt . He also would like to have a Tape Measure Yagi building session. Discussion followed.

Net Control:

Jan 12th Ryan KB8RCR

Jan 19th Pat KC8RTW

Jan 26th Lee KC8ITI

- Grid Maps-Thanks Pat KD8IVZ and Wendy KD8IWB who brought grid maps to share with club members.

- Edenville Tower-Del WB8FYR- Del shared pictures he took from the top of the Edenville Water Tower. It was pretty scary looking from up there but we got a closer look at how our radio antennas will be attached.

- Pat KC8RTW brought a video of *The Last Big Field Day*. It was pretty entertaining and quite informative. Thank-you Pat.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda KC8MUD
MARC Secretary

Correction to December's newsletter: Mark KD8GRQ not Kevin KD8QAM was working on a radio tower at his home and wondered if anyone was interested in helping him.

My Two Cents

Pat Mullet, KC8RTW

After several weeks of listening to warbling signals and watching text scroll up the receive window of *FLDigi*, I finally ran the interface cable, screwed up my courage, and answered my first CQ using PSK-31. AE5XI/100, Terry in Las Cruces, NM, acknowledged my call and was kind enough to bear with me as I fumbled through the QSO. I quickly found that not only was I not familiar with the CW style procedures involved in a digital contact, I only had the most cursory knowledge of how *FLDigi* functioned, including the all important macro buttons. Still, it was a lot of fun, and considering that we were on 40 meters, I was quite impressed with the range of the contact.

The next night, I fired up the rig again, and while I was unable to make contact with a Mexican station calling CQ, I did hook up with AE7CW out in Arizona. This contact was a bit smoother, though I really have to make a cheat sheet

for those darn macros, and I really have to learn the “ins and outs” of the program’s logging application.

My success with PSK-31 prompted me to finally get around to fabricating a mike/interface switch from the computer data switch box I’d purchased for the purpose. Now I just need to test the box and construct a jumper cable and I should be golden.

Though I haven’t made many contacts, I’m really beginning to like this mode and after gaining a bit more experience, I’m going to start getting up to the higher frequencies and see what kind of distance I can really reach, then start playing with some of the other modes. This is going to be a good way to spend all those snowy days during the winter months.

Hope to see you on the air.

73, Pat, KC8RTW

February is Activity Month at MARC Meetings

Seeking to generate some added activity during the stark Michigan Winter, the Midland Amateur Radio Club has added “hands-on” demonstrations to their February meetings.

During the ARES® meeting, to be held February 2nd at 6:00 pm at the Salvation Army Building, the membership will be conducting an APRS working session. Everyone is encouraged to bring in their APRS gear in an effort to get them all up and running, as well as to take a chance to compare various equipment and software.

Later, at the main MARC meeting, which is scheduled for 7:30 pm that same evening, Club members are encouraged to bring in any kits or projects they are working on and share them with the group. It’s hoped that this will serve to jumpstart everyone’s interest in new areas of our hobby, or to just encourage them to become more active on the airwaves.

Whatever your interest, its hoped that everyone will come out and support these special meetings.

Dow Run 2012 John Wolters, W8QN

As you may know the Dow Run has changed the date of their activity from June to the same weekend as Dayton in May (May 18-20). As a result the number of hams that will be available to help with the run has decreased. Unfortunately this includes me. Because of this we are looking for a new coordinator for this year’s run. I will be available to help with the organization of the run but will not be

here the weekend of the event. **If you are willing to take over this position please let myself or the club president know. If no one steps up the club will unfortunately have to drop out of this activity.** We have been part of the Dow Run for over 20 years.

John Wolters, W8QN

Amateur Radio is a Contact Sport!

Upcoming Events

2/2	ARES® APRS Working Mtg
4/5	Skywarn® Training
4/12	MS Walk

Michigan Hamfests

2/4	Negaunee
2/11	Traverse City
2/19	Livonia
3/17	Marshall
4/7	Lowell
4/14	Milford
5/5	Cadillac
6/2	Hudsonville
6/9	Newberry
6/16	Midland
6/17	Monroe
10/21	Kalamazoo

* Denotes date based on 2011 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

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.

Volunteers Needed for 2012 MS Walk

The Midland Amateur Radio Club is once again providing communications support for the MS Walk, and about 15 volunteer operators are needed for the event. The MS Walk is a low-impact event that allows amateur radio operators interested in Emergency Communications, a chance to get their feet wet operating under control of a directed net.

The MS Walk will be Saturday,

April 21, 2012, and run from 8:30 am to around twelve-thirty. Registration for the race will be at the Midland Central Middle School, 305 East Reardon St., and will begin at 9:00 am. The opening Ceremony is scheduled for 9:45 am with the official start of the commencing at 10:00am and running along a 3 mile route. Ham volunteers are expected to be in place shortly after 8:30 am, with

locations to be determined by Chris, KB8UIH, MARC's chairman for the event.

If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Chris Rose, KB8UIH. Chris' phone number is on the front page of the newsletter, and he can be emailed at kb8uih@charter.net.

National Weather Service to Conduct Severe Storm Safety Class

The National Weather Service will be conducting Storm Spotter Training April 5th, at 7:00 pm at the Midland Law Enforcement Center, 2727 Rodd St. Conducted by NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist Rich Pollman, there will be no charge for the class which will

run approximately two hours, and is jointly sponsored by the Midland County Office of Emergency Management and the Midland Amateur Radio Club. These classes are meant to train Skywarn® volunteers for Midland County and the surrounding area. The class is open to

anyone and those who do attend are not committed to become Skywarn® volunteers.

For more information, contact John Wolters, W8QN at 832-9122.

License Upgrade Class Forming

The Midland Amateur Radio Club will be offering classes for those wanting to upgrade to the General level class and gain greater operating privileges in the world of Amateur Radio. The free classes will be open to interested residents from Midland and the surrounding counties. Tentatively scheduled to start Monday, February 6th, the class will meet each Monday and Wednesday through March 21st at the Salvation Army building, 330 Waldo

Street, pending confirmation of availability. The class begins at 7:00 pm and runs about two hours. There is no fee for the class, though students will need to purchase the study guide—*The ARRL General License Manual, Seventh Edition*. When purchased through the Club, the guides will be available at a discount at the discounted price of \$23.00 as opposed to the over-the-counter price of \$29.95 plus shipping from the ARRL. After the conclusion of

the class, MARC will conduct a VE session for the class as well anyone wishing to try for any of the available levels of license. Preparations are underway for an Extra level class which is scheduled to begin soon after the General Class, provided enough interest is shown. To register for the class, or to be placed on a contact list for the introductory level class, contact Lee Hodges at (989) 374-0032 or via email at kc8iti@arrl.net.

US District Court for Maine Issues Order Granting Summary Judgment against Glenn Baxter, K1MAN

(ARRLWeb—01/13/2012) On January 10, the US District Court for Maine issued a ruling in the FCC's lawsuit to collect monetary forfeitures issued to Glenn Baxter, K1MAN, of Belgrade Lakes, Maine. The FCC had assessed forfeitures in the amount of \$21,000 against Baxter on three asserted violations of the Communications Act of 1934 and its regulations: Failure to respond to an FCC inquiry in violation of Title 47, Section 308 of the US Code,

willful or malicious interference with other radio transmissions in violation of Section 97.101(d), and engaging in communications in which he has a pecuniary interest in violation of Section 97.113(a)(3).

Chief US District Judge John A. Woodcock Jr, in writing for the Court, agreed with the FCC on the first two counts -- willful or repeated failure to respond to FCC requests for information, and willful or malicious interference --

and granted summary judgments to the FCC in the amount of \$3000 and \$7000, respectively. On the third claim -- communications in which an amateur station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest -- the Court declined to grant a summary judgment to the FCC, holding that there were issues of material fact to be litigated in the Court in later proceedings.

Explore the World with Amateur Radio!

Radio Amateurs Not Affected by Narrowbanding Requirements

(ARRL Letter for January 12, 2012) The FCC released a Public Notice on January 6, reminding land mobile licensees, frequency coordinators and equipment manufacturers that they have less than one year to transition to narrowband operations in the 150-174 and 421-512 MHz bands. While the latter

frequency range includes amateur service allocations, radio amateurs are not affected by the narrowbanding requirement. Land mobile operation is permitted in parts of the 421-430 MHz band in the areas around Detroit, Cleveland and Buffalo, and land mobile licensees in these areas are among those who will have to

migrate to narrowband (12.5 kHz or narrower) technology by January 1, 2013. Amateur operation is not permitted along the Canadian border (north of Line A as defined in the FCC Rules) in the band 420-430 MHz.

ARRL Diamond DXCC Challenge

(ARRLWeb—12/23/2011) 2012 is the 75th anniversary of the ARRL's DXCC Award. The world's preeminent DXing award continues to be DXCC, so reaching the "Diamond milestone" is an event that we all want to celebrate. Going back to the roots of the award, and specifically reading the 1937 DXCC List (January, 1937 QST pages 52-3) to learn what countries were counted at the onset led us to create the Diamond DXCC Challenge.

The country list we will use for the Diamond DXCC Challenge is based upon the list of 231 places shown in 1937. We tried to find corresponding entities today that would represent the places listed in 1937, but there are four places (Baluchistan, British Cameroons, Canal Zone, Hejas) which were on the oldest list that just don't exist today in a form that could even loosely be represented by someplace current. The Diamond DXCC List represents 227 of the 233 1937 "countries." The list is fascinating and leads us to learn more about world history and how geopolitics has changed leading up to today.

As you "check-off" these entities during the course of 2012 working DX (which is an achievement even today) using spotting networks, pan-adapters, 200 watt rigs, and stacked tribanders, imagine how DXing was different in the early years of radio and DXCC! Working Tibet or Aldabra with 50 watts and crystal-controlled transmitters to simple wire antennas, had to be a thrill like no other in that time for ham radio operators.

We anticipate that this award will be very popular thanks to the unique nature of the entities which we will try to put into the log in 2012. Not only are there

traditional DXCC entities, but there are cities, Islands on the Air (IOTA by RSGB) island groups, and various sub-political entities inside DXCC entities, such as the Indian State of Goa and many States in Malaysia and islands in Indonesia. There are even three individual "countries" that make up today's Yemen (70 -- Yemen, Socotra Islands and the City of Aden)! Yes, we would like to have even one of them on the air. An interesting factoid about this 1937 list came via the late Jim Maxwell, W6CF. Jim said the only entity from the 1937 list to be removed without a single QSO being made was Wrangel Island.

For some entities that today consist of multiple countries, you may work any of today's entities to qualify for that single, 1937 country. For example, French Equatorial Africa will be considered worked if you log a station in TL, TN, TR or TT in 2012. The Diamond DXCC country tables show the current entity names and prefixes that qualify for the 1937 countries.

The Diamond DXCC Challenge is an "Honor Award" and will not require acquisition or inspection of QSLs or proof of confirmation, although it still will be fun and useful to seek out cards or LoTW confirmations. We will provide forms online to use at your operating position to track what you have worked and forms for applying for awards and endorsements. As the year goes on, we will also provide hints and tips about what is happening with the Diamond DXCC Award and for instance, who might be on the air from Goa or Gdansk!

The Diamond DXCC certificate will be available for working 100 of the 226 entities, and will be endorsable at 5

levels: 125, 150, 175, 200 and 225. If anyone works all 226, there will be a special award for that remarkable achievement! We hope to publish award recipients' call signs online during the year, and identify high numbers.

There will be a Diamond DXCC Challenge Honor Roll. The Honor Roll level will be determined by the leader in worked entities submitted to HQ, and the bottom of the Honor Roll will be 9 entities less than that of the leader. Example: If WIAW has worked 165 entities, the bottom of the Honor Roll will be 156 entities. In February, 2013, HQ will issue a final Honor Roll tally with overall leaders.

See the Diamond DXCC web page for more information and to read updates during 2012.

ARRL Diamond DXCC Challenge Rules

1. The Diamond DXCC Challenge Awards are available to all amateurs worldwide who contact a minimum of 100 countries from the Diamond DXCC List. US amateurs must be members of the ARRL. Generally, the rules for the Diamond DXCC Challenge are the same as the rules for the DXCC Program, except as listed here.

2. Contacts must be made from within the same DXCC entity by the same operator.

3. Contacts must be made during 2012 -- from 0000Z on 1 January, 2012, through 2359Z on 31 December, 2012. All amateur bands may be used except for 60 meters.

4. There are no mode endorsements or band endorsements. The Diamond DXCC Challenge is considered to be a

Mixed-Mode/Mixed-Band award. There are no power categories or restrictions for the award.

5. Confirmations are not required to obtain this award, but HQ will review submitted entries for accuracy and validity.

6. The Diamond DXCC Challenge

certificate will be available for working 100 entities and will be endorsable with stickers at the following levels: 125, 150, 175, 200 and 225.

7. Applications should use ARRL-supplied forms available online or obtained by writing DXCC, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111.

8. The Diamond DXCC Award certificate fee is \$12 including shipping within the USA, and \$13 including shipping outside the USA.

9. Endorsement stickers are \$1, including shipping in the US, and \$2 outside the US.

Contact Log Mapping Tools Available

(ARRL Contest Update—Jan 4, 2012) David K2DSL has create a web application that reads an ADIF file generated from your logging program and creates a Google map of the contacts. You upload the ADIF file and the application displays a map in return. Each contact must include a latitude/longitude or grid square in order for it to show up.

That information is available from QRZ.com or Hamcall. See the website at <http://www.k2dsl.com/2011/12/17/create-a-google-map-of-your-adif-contacts/> and the FAQ for more information on this creative service.

Working in parallel with David, Sebastian LW4HR has developed GeLog, an online tool for visualizing contacts on

a Google map globe from an ADIF file <<https://sites.google.com/site/sdimunzio/english>>. To use the tool, you'll need a QRZ.com data subscription for the lat/lon coordinates. Not only do the contacts appear on the globe, but so do the daylight and nighttime areas and the Sun zooms around the globe, too! Very nice work!

Technical Topics and Information

(ARRL Contest Update—Jan 4, 2012) John G3JVC/GM3JVC recommends a useful publication for your bookshelf on fighting EMI developed by the US Naval Postgraduate School, "*The Mitigation of Radio Noise From External Sources at Receiving Sites*". It's a tour-de-force on problems hams know well. <<http://edocs.nps.edu/npspubs/scholarly/TR/2007/NPS-EC-07-002.pdf>>

• Speaking of locating noise sources, Phil WØXI has put an ultrasonic detector kit on the market that is quite useful for power-line noise. <<http://www.midnightsience.com/ultrasonics.html>> In addition, there are a couple of good construction articles by W1TRC in *QST* by Jim Hanson, W1TRC; "A Home-made Ultrasonic Arc Detector" in Apr 2006 and "*Adapting a Three Element Tape Measure Beam For Power Line Noise Hunting*" in May 2007. (Thanks, Lee KØLW and Mike K4PI)

• Todd KF7SIS likes basic Rustoleum paint for protecting antennas against UV. To avoid overspray and waste, an inexpensive foam brush does a fine job with a can of flat black to apply two or three coats of paint.

• For those of you who like to build your own station accessories, check out K5LXP's version of the 6 x 2 coax switch. <<http://www.qsl.net/k5lxp/projects/CoaxSwitch/CoaxSwitch.html>>

There is plenty of technical detail and some good reasons why these devices cost what they do! (Thanks, Brian N9ADG)

• It's very hard to see a butane flame outside and up on the tower when trying to solder. Mike K6BR takes along a small cardboard box with two sides cut out. It keeps the wind out while making it possible to see the flame. This avoids damage to the cable as well as to Mike!
• Scott KBØFHP discovered a program called Polar Plot that can help map out an antenna radiation pattern fairly easily. "All you need is a constant RF source at the frequency desired, you rotate your beam, and the pattern is measured." <<http://www.g4hfq.co.uk/plphelp/plphelp.htm>>

• What's the velocity factor (VF) of your coax? Would that be on the inside or the outside? VF is well-specified for RF inside the cable but the outside of the shield is completely different, electrically. That conducting surface acts like a fat, insulated wire with a VF around 95%! (Thanks, Steve G3TXQ)

• Although the half-sloper is a well-known antenna, it seems that everybody has a different way of installing them on the tower. Roger K8RI has developed what looks like a very robust method of getting the job done while keeping the coax-wire connections waterproof and

secure. It starts with an aluminum bracket and SO-239 connector then waterproofs the assembly for tower-mounting. <

http://www.rogerhalstead.com/ham_files/tower46.htm> and <http://www.rogerhalstead.com/ham_files/tower47.htm>

• *The Instructables* web site recently posted a series of guides on basic electronics. These cover the fundamentals and might be useful for someone learning about ham radio or general electronics. <<http://www.instructables.com/id/Basic-Electronics/>>

• Another neat *Instructable* shows how to "hack" a broadcast band radio for use in the great outdoors with a custom enclosure and offers some good ideas for portable operating and QRP rigs! <<http://www.instructables.com/id/RadioShell-Hacking-a-radio-for-backpacking/>> These make great accompaniment to the new ARRL Do-It-Yourself video mentioned above.

• Technical Web Site of the Week - A common source of interference, particularly on 160 meters, is a mixing product from two or more AM broadcast stations. While it may sound like harmonics, "intermod" is not usually the fault of the broadcaster. If you suspect mixing you can use the Radio-Locator

transmitter locating service < <http://radio-locator.com/>> by entering your location and looking for strong stations in your area. You can tell whether the products are being generated in your ra-

dio by switching in some attenuation. If you add 10 dB of attenuation and the products drop in strength by more than 10 dB, your receiver front end is likely being overloaded - try a broadcast-band

reject filter (such as in the ARRL Handbook). Otherwise, the hunt outside is on! (Thanks, Doug K1DG)

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: 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 particularly for 4CX1500B and 4CX3000A7. Old Repeater amp that used a Push pull pair

of tubes. I could use some 7/8" to 1.5" Heliac with connectors, but need a minimum of 200' for each run. Looking for HV power transformers 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 including vac variables.

Contact Roger, K8RI (K8RI@rogerhalstead.com)

MARC Vital Statistics

Memberships Expiring in January

KB8UIH
 KD8HID
 KD8PDD

KD8PDE
 KD8PDF
 N8LBF

WB8WNF
 WD8BPT
 N8ERF

Memberships Expiring in February

W8SEX
 AA8EJ

W8NON
 WB8FYR

WD8ODG
 WB8RCR

KD8MQX

Memberships Expiring in March

AB8JF
 N8WTQ

K8RI
 N8JBW

K8VB
 K6VWE

Current Active Club Membership 46

Birthdays Celebrated in January/February

WA8KJR 1/2
 KD8HIF 1/6
 K7GTK 1/8
 KB8VNX 1/11
 KD8FRH 1/12
 WZ8Z 1/12

KA8HQW 1/13
 N8NNA 1/14
 KD8GRQ 1/19
 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
 KD8EJK 2/14
 W8NON 2/14
 KB8MCI 2/15
 WW9E 2/18

Anniversaries Celebrated in January/February

KC8ZMQ and Karen 1/1
 KA8EZT and Linda 1/2
 KD8COB and Bernadette 01/25

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

Information is from data received 11/1/2011
 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