



W8KEA



MARCA

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

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	Pat Mullet KC8RTW	(989) 828-6657
Swap Committee	Keith Johnson KB8SOE / Ch	(989) 488-4337
	Pat Mullet KC8RTW	(989) 828-6657

LIFE MEMBERS

Larry K8SQB, Don W8WOJ, Lee KC8ITI, Dennis N8ERF, Larry N8CGP, Denny WD8BPT

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 October 4, 2012, 6:00 PM
Next CLUB Meeting — Thursday October 4, 2012, 7:30 PM
Salvation Army Building 330 Waldo Rd.
Talk-in 147.000+

October 2012

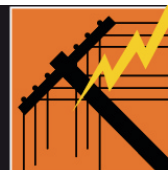
Static Discharge

Kevin Martin, KD8QAM

Outside of moving around a few radios and a new callsign license plate, I haven't had much to do with radio. It's unfortunate, but work has taken over this month. Things will be back to normal by the end of the month. In the meantime, the projects keep filling the garage. There was a nice working antenna, set out on the garage floor. It now has a small footprint of grease across it, and quite the bend. I also have taken on a few gaming systems to fix. Little hands keep raiding the toolbox, and I find the strangest things in odd places. A well-used sucker in place of a screwdriver and sockets in the laundry. My daughter is quite the little helper. I guess that without having anything to work with, it keeps me from getting into the band-aid box. With winter quickly approaching, I hope everyone can wrap all his or her summer projects up. If there is time before Halloween, I am going to try to carve a radio themed pumpkin. Happy Halloween everyone and I hope everyone has a chance to get on the air.

The fall picnic was a great time as usual. It's nice to be able to lounge around for a bit with everyone. The favorite seemed to

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



**AMATEUR
RADIO**

be Dorie's chili. We arrived late, due to a community service project that I was working on out in Pinconning. It was a volunteer project building wheelchair

ramps for folks who are less fortunate. I was able to see the elderly man leave his home for the first time in several years, under his own power.

I hope to hear from you all on the next Thursday evening net.

73, Kevin KD8QAM

MARC Minutes

Linda Hodges, KC8MUD

The meeting was called to order by Kevin KD8QAM with 25 in attendance at 7:40 P.M. A sign-in sheet was passed around and introductions were made. Any corrections or additions to the newsletter should be given to the secretary.

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>

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)

• Larry K8SQB- Al Adams was here to tell about his dad Larry K8SQB who is in the King's Daughters Home. Well wishes can be sent to Larry at the King's Daughter's Home, 2410 Rodd St., Midland Mi. 48640. Or you can visit him there in room 77.

• EC/RO-John W8QN-Safety Day is coming up at Porter Township on Saturday. A tower and equipment will be on display from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Also, some radio equipment is going to be available from the City of Midland. See John for more details.

• Treasurer's report- John W8QN- Many thanks to all who renew their club dues.

• VE Session -Dennis N8ERF- A VE session will be held on September 10th for the Isabella County class at the corner of Broadway and Leaton at 6:00 P.M.

• Generator repair- Dennis N8ERF- A motion on the floor by Dennis and seconded to reimburse Dennis \$110.00 for supplies to build a cover for the generator. Passed.

• Membership Drive- Ryan KB8RCR- A discussion about face book and a fan page to advertise events and reminders. A motion on the floor to form a membership drive committee was tabled because it was not needed. Ryan will have a membership drive committee meeting directly after the next MARC meeting. A Santa Parade float committee was also discussed. If you would like to help with a parade float or a membership drive please contact Ryan or meet with him directly after the next club meeting.

• Bill AB8JF-Lee KC8ITI- Bill has been in the hospital since Tuesday.

• MARC Picnic-Linda KC8MUD- On Saturday, September 15th at noon we'll be having the annual club Fall Picnic at the Homer township park. Please bring a dish to pass.

• Packet Radio -John W8QN- On Saturday, October 6th AC/RO will be testing packet radio. If you would like to join in the testing sessions let John know. Also, there was a long discussion about digi-peaters, the Edenville tower and

cleaning up the repeater sites. Also, if you are still not getting your newsletter please get John your current e-mail address.

• Dow Run-JohnW8QN-Since the Dow Run is on the same weekend as the Dayton Hamfest the question was asked if our club still wants to participate. The answer was yes, we think there will still be enough support for that event.

• Isabella County EOC-Pat KC8RTW- Isabella County EOC director is generating a list of active members that the County may use in case of an emergency.

• Old Time Station-Keith KB8SOE- Thanks to the guys who came out and helped with the Homer Township sesqui-centennial event. It was a very nice day.

• Honor Roll- Ryan KB8RCR-Ryan is the interim Net Manager. It's important to report radio activities as these reported hours are very important.

• Presentations-Dennis N8ERF- Lee KC8ITI- Life Member Certificates were presented to Denny WD8BPT and Larry N8CGP for their outstanding service to Amateur Radio. Dennis N8ERF also presented the club two bound editions of many, many past newsletters. These historical memories begin with a dedication to silent keys Raleigh W8QOI and Donna Sue N8XQL. Thank you Dennis and Jacqueline N8NNA for this lasting tribute to the Midland Amateur Radio Club.

• Elections:

Secretary- Dorie N8WTQ-unopposed.

Treasurer-John W8QN-unopposed

Vice-president-Mark KC8GRQ-unopposed

President-Kevin KD8QAM-unopposed

• NET Controls:

Sept. 13th Ryan KB8RCR

Sept. 20th John W8QN

Sept. 27th Keith KB8SOE

A motion to adjourn made by Larry N8CGP and seconded by Cindy WD8BDM.

The meeting ended at 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by

Linda KC8MUD

MARC Secretary

My Two Cents

Pat Mullet, KC8RTW

It's been a good month for me when it comes to amateur radio. I had a chance to play in the Hawaii QSO party the week-end of August 25th. I heard half a dozen different stations from the Aloha State, including one from the battleship USS Missouri, and was finally able to work a station on 15 meters, leaving just Alaska in my quest for Worked All States. I think I'm going to have to start spending some more time on both 10 and 15 meters.

Many will remember my problem with the smoke going out of my Alinco DX-70 HF rig earlier in the year, which caused me to replace it with an Icom IC-718. After trying to tap the accessory plug for 12volts to illuminate the meter in my manual tuner, the DX-70 wouldn't light up, much less operate. I suspected that something in the accessory supply line, most likely a fuse, had opened. When I cracked the case, I found that all the circuitry was hidden within the heat sink and under the filter board, and I didn't have the tools or time to investigate further. Lee, KC8ITI later confirmed that the schematic indicated a 5 amp fuse was protecting the supply line. A week or so back, I was able to get the rig on the table and delve into it a little deeper. After digging into the carcass—and stripping a Phillips head screw's drive slot, naturally—I was able to snag the little fuse deep within. Sure enough, the sucker was open! I cross-referenced the fuse and picked up the replacement, and should have it, and the rig, ready to roll in the next week or so.

I've been more than a little dissatisfied with my APRS digipeater/Igate station since I put it on the air. While I'm

regularly gating traffic from the Midland APRS digi to and from the APRS internet backbone, the performance as an RF Digipeater has been pitiful—mobiles in the area are reaching the Midland digi on RF better than I am and I have a taller antenna. Suspecting that my TNC may have been out of whack, I did a bit of research online and found the procedure to align the tones the modem uses to communicate. Performance was still less than optimal, so I began to think that the TNC might be over-deviating the radio, even though I had back the level down a bit. I still didn't have the proper test equipment, so I couldn't be certain.

I found plans for a discriminator tap and meter board that would convert a scanner or radio into a deviation meter, but after I a bit more research, I've discovered a software program that will allow me to feed my HT's audio into my computer's soundcard and use it as a crude deviation meter. I should have run through this procedure by the next meeting, and if I'm lucky, things might be looking up for me on APRS.

The weather's starting to change, and I figure I might have a maximum of two months or so to rearrange my "antenna farm." At the very least, I want to get some coax buried and change the entry point from my shack's window to under the house and through an interior wall. If I'm lucky, I can get my 6BTV vertical moved and a radial field laid in to give me a backup to the G5RV. If I can this done, I can rest happy for the winter.

Until then, I hope to hear you on the air.

73, Pat, KC8RTW

ARES®/RACES John Wolters, W8QN

Porter Township Safety Days

Saturday, September 8th was a safety day celebration held at Porter Township. In attendance was W8QN, KC8ITI, KC8MUD, NX8A, KB8SOE, KB8QWQ. We setup 2 antennas and stations to demonstrate amateur radio. Attendance seemed to be a little lighter than previous years but there was plenty of interest.

ARES®/RACES

Saturday, October 6th is the annual

date set by the ARRL for the Simulated Emergency Test (SET). Not knowing of any plans for District 3 or the State I would like to activate the EOC, County Services Building, and Emergency Communications vehicle with packet radio. If there are any individuals that would like to join in from their home, they are welcome. More details and discussion will be held at the October 4th ARES®/RACES meeting. Hope to see

Upcoming Events

11/17	Midland Santa Parade
12/7	MARC Christmas Party

Michigan Hamfests

10/6	Petoskey
10/7	Madison Heights
10/13	Muskegon
10/21	Kalamazoo
12/2	Harrison Township
2/17	Livonia

* 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
 Mi VHF Trffc Net; MWF, 145.15 MHz, 0900 ET
 TMMTN; Mon-Sat, 147.30 MHz, 2130 ET
 MACS; Sun-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
 MiDTN - 1900 local Tu, Th, Sat 3.583
 +waterfall, Oivia 8/500

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.

you there.

Repeater Activities

The Edenville remote receiver is up and running but unfortunately the receive antenna system at the main repeater has failed so we are currently only running with the West Midland remote. We will be doing testing to try and find out what part of the antenna system has quit and attempt repair. We also have had reports

that stations that travel by the West Midland site seem to break in and out of the system when they should be solid. More to investigate. Stay tuned for more updates.

Website Additions

At suggestions of several folks there have been several additions to the W8KEA website (<http://www.w8kea.org/>). A Midland Public Service Net Control

Station list has been added as well as calendar entries for ARES®/RACES. Look for the addition of the next meeting presentation topic to come. If you have any suggestions for additions to the newsletter please let your officers know.

John Wolters, W8QN
Midland County EC/RO

SOS Animal Rescue Dirty Dog Run

The SOS people have asked for our help again this year with their event at City Forest. The date is Saturday Octo-

ber 13th. We should be on site by 7 AM and the event finishes by noon. If you can help with this low impact event con-

tact Lee, KC8ITI at (989) 374-0032 or email kc8iti@arrl.net.

Isabella County VE Exam Results

The Midland ARC held a VE session Monday, September 10th in Mt Pleasant, scheduled after the conclusion of the Technician Classes held at the Isabella County EOC. We had two candidates attended and both passed exams.

Kenneth Williams passed the Tech exam. and Joseph Rivard passed both the Tech and General.

The VEs for the session were: Lee Hodges, KC8ITI; Larry Alexander, WB8MKY, Gratiot County Amateur Ra-

dio Association president and Dennis Klipa, N8ERF.

Best Regards,
Dennis. N8ERF

New Generator Cover



Last fall when we had the club's generator repaired it became clear that the cover needed to be replaced. It had developed leaks, the wood had deteriorated and mold had been growing on the inside for some time.

I have constructed and installed a new cover. It was made from MDO plywood, the same stuff that is used to make

highway signs. It has a surface, which when primed, becomes impervious to water. The edges, however, are not. All of the exposed edges were sealed with two coats of epoxy diluted in acetone, to allow it to penetrate into the wood. Then an additional coat of epoxy was applied. The edges which were glued and screwed together were not treated with epoxy so that the waterproof glue would adhere properly. However, all joints were then sealed with epoxy. Then all of the exposed seams from these joints were then covered with strips of redwood trim, which were also sealed with epoxy on all six sides. Then, the entire unit was painted with two coats of exterior primer and two coats of exterior paint. I tried to pick a color that was close to that of the club jackets.

Then stainless steel plates were ad-

ded to the bottom edge of the cover where it rests on bolt heads holding the trailer together. This was done to prevent the paint and epoxy from being damaged as the cover bounced around on these bolt heads. A stainless steel plate was also added to the top front of the cover to protect the wood when the cover is opened up and resting on the tongue of the trailer. A vent was added on each side of the trailer to prevent moisture from building up inside the trailer while it is being stored. Finally, the hinges and latches were cleaned up and repainted.

The cover should last a good long time to come. And because I did not reuse the metal frame from the old cover, the top is now lighter and easier to lift up.

73 de Dennis, N8ERF

History Made During September Meeting

A presentation enshrining the history of the Midland Amateur Radio Club segued into another emotional presenta-

tion during the September 6th meeting.

Dennis Klipa, N8ERF, has long held an interest in the written history of the

club, which has led him on a personal journey through the archived minutes of the earliest club meetings preserved in

*It's Not Your Grandfather's
Amateur Radio!*

bound journals. The minutes would later be made public in the club's newsletter, which then-president Lee Hodges, KC8ITI, had conveniently been converting into digital format.

Knowing that in a world of ever-changing information storage formats data can often go missing during the translation from one media to next, and that the bound printed page has a permanence that appears orders of magnitude above its counterparts, Dennis had a complete set of the club's surviving newsletters bound into a two-volume set. He then formally presented the volumes to the club.

During his presentation, Dennis began telling the story of a club member

whose name had continually appeared over the years in the minutes. A member who helped organized field days and volunteered for special projects. Who almost single-handedly converted a used RV into a communications vehicle. Who spearheaded creation of an amateur radio club at the Central Middle School. And who did most of the legwork in getting the club's veteran portable generator back in harness after it suffered a mechanical failure during Field Day 2011.

Emotions were running high as Dennis finished his litany, then announced that Denny Caney, WD8BPT, had been nominated for Life Membership in the Midland ARC by the club's life members and unanimously endorsed

for the honor by the club in general. Stunned and rendered speechless by emotion, Denny accepted the honor.

The scene was repeated moments later as Lee, KC8ITI, made a similar summation of another club member's contribution to MARC, letting it be known that Larry Macklin, N8CGP had also been nominated for Life Membership and approved unanimously by the membership. Larry accepted the honor with a short comment.

Each of the newest Life Members were presented with framed certificates confirming the honor and the date, signed by MARC President Kevin Martin, KD8QAM.

Weaver's Words

Jim Weaver, K8JE

The following are excerpts from the Great Lakes Division Newsletter for 8/31/2012-Ed

Worth Repeating Regarding Antenna Structures

The following was copied from a mailing to the Ohio Section by Ohio State Government Liaison (SGL) Nick Pittner, K8NAP. Nick is the person who headed the recent drive to enact an Ohio "PRB-like" bill into state law. Although his words are specifically related to the new Ohio law, they contain information that is highly relevant to how any amateur should interface with neighbors and government authorities when asking permission to erect an antenna support structure. It is for this reason that I am quoting Nick, below. If I may take the liberty, I will summarize Nick's article by emphasizing that obtaining permission to put up an antenna structure cannot be approached with a cavalier viewpoint even when there is a law on the books that supports putting it up. It is imperative that one attempts to maintain good personal relations with neighbors and government officials throughout the process.

Nick's message follows:

"August 15 was the "effective date" for H.B. 158, the day it became law in Ohio. Some of you have had antenna projects on hold, waiting for the new law to become effective. Before you start digging the foundation for that new tower, let's review the basics. First, H.B. 158 (the Bill) does not affect other types of land use restrictions, such as those imposed by deed restrictions, condominium agreements and neighborhood agreements. Those types of restrictions arose by agreement when you purchased your home. Second, the Bill does not exempt you from the local application and approval process if it would otherwise have applied to your antenna project. In short, if a construction permit would have been necessary before the Bill, it is still necessary. If a zoning variance would have been necessary before the Bill, it is still necessary, and you are still required to go through the application and approval process.

"What has changed is the degree of deference that you, as an amateur radio operator, are entitled to receive when your application is considered by the local zoning authorities. The Bill states, in part, that the local zoning authority ". . . shall not restrict the height or location of amateur station antenna structures in such a way as to prevent effective amateur radio service communications . . ."

Other provisions similarly require that local authorities provide "reasonable accommodation" to applications for antenna structures.

"With that in mind, here are ten things to consider as you begin using the new legislation:

"1. Good relations with your neighbors, including their support for your antenna application, is the best asset you can have,

"2. Make sure that your paperwork included all of the requested information, is in the proper format and filed properly – don't provide an excuse to reject your application,

"3. Evidence that your tower is designed to withstand the most likely weather events and that it will be properly erected is very important,

"4. Structure your plan to observe setback lines and existing zoning restrictions to the greatest extent possible. We may be allowed to have antennas, but not in the front yard,

"5. If you can legitimately do so, note in your application that one of the reasons you need the tower is to permit your station to participate in emergency communications if the need arises,

"6. Locate your tower as far away from adjacent houses as reasonably possible,

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"7. Don't accept the notion that a "fall-down" limit applies to you. A "fall-down" limit is a provision that requires that no structure can be so high that it could fall onto the adjacent property. Keep in mind that a well-constructed tower will still be standing long after all of the nearby trees have fallen over.

"8. The 'antennas are ugly' objection is not, in most cases, a proper zoning consideration,

"9. If your application is rejected and you plan to appeal to the board of zoning appeals or similar agency, keep in mind that there are precise time limits for doing so, and failure to appeal within those time limits will bar your appeal,

"10. Don't ask for more than you really need!" (K8JE note: And, stay within the limits of any approval that was given. For example, permission to erect one structure means one structure; permission to erect a 60 ft. structure is not a license to go higher.)

Nick, thanks to you and your team for the great work you did with Ohio H.B. 158.

As a final comment, Michigan Section Manager Larry Camp, WB8R has begun the effort to have a PRB-1-like law enacted in Michigan. I am sure he will appreciate having anyone with experience in the Michigan legislative arena contact him (wb8r@larl.org).

My Nickel's Worth

I am pleased to say that rules for appointing DX Card Checkers were modified at the July meeting of the Program & Services Committee (PSC) of the ARRL Board of Directors. The modification increased the number of Checkers a director can appoint. This means that I am able to appoint two additional Checkers in the Great Lakes Division. The purpose of the rule change is to increase the convenience to members of having QSL cards checked for ARRL awards. It also can ensure adequate coverage of divisions in meeting the objectives of the new, online DXCC QSL entry program. This program benefits members by making it easier to have cards checked and by decreasing the effort (i.e. the amount of person-time) required of staff to process

DXCC applications.

To date, I have appointed one new Checker to cover the northeast part of Ohio. The appointment is being processed at HQ and should become effective soon. The second of my new appointments is under discussion.

The prime objective in increasing the number of Card Checkers is to make it more practical for hamfest committees to schedule (and promote) the attendance of a Checker. Publicized attendance of a Card Checker at a hamfest makes it easier for people to submit QSLs for operating awards. Using the online entry program reduces the effort required by HQ staff to process awards applications. When fully utilized, online entry can reduce the expense of overtime required to manage the annual, frustrating, end-of-year backlog of submissions.

A list of current Card Checkers is available at www.arrl.org/dxcc-card-checker-search.

Jim Weaver, K8JE

Director, Great Lakes Division

Strays

(ARRL Contest Update—September 12, 2012) Those big numbers generated by the W3AO Field Day team are depicted in a series of photographs by Alan N3ALN. It makes me tired just looking at the guys working away to get that station and antennas set up! <<http://www.n3aln.com/W3AOFD2012.htm>>

• This illustration of the electric field a thunderstorm can generate suggests an interesting possibility for a lightning detector. It would probably also work in a snowstorm or windstorm. One LED con-

ducting in each direction would catch both polarities of discharge. Using the LED in an opto-coupler or opto-isolator might also make a good alarm or at least turn on a bigger light. <<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4KBTzwhy3o&feature=share>> (Thanks, Jeff K1NSS)

• Scott N3FJP notes, "The Ontario Section Change has already been incorporated into Field Day, November Sweepstakes and the ARRL 160 contest logging software. I've been getting e-mail from folks daily who are just dis-

covering that Ontario has been split into four sections and are wondering if I will update my software accordingly. The new versions for these contests are already on the website, so please be sure to download the latest before the upcoming contests." Scott's advice applies to ALL contesters, regardless of their logging software - don't be caught unprepared. Make sure your logging software is upgraded now and don't miss out on the new Ontario multipliers! <n3fjp.com>

Technical Topics and Information

(ARRL Contest Update—August 29, 2012) Up, up, and away! Steve NU7T has collected sources of extendable and fixed antenna support poles from a few feet to 65 feet and up. You will be amazed at the variety and resourcefulness of what can be used to hang a sky-hook! <<http://web1.greatbasin.net/~nu7t/>>

• Troubleshooting is hard enough

without having to follow 10-mil (or smaller) PCB traces under and around other components. This Instructables project shows you how to put your finger right on the desired trace! <<http://www.instructables.com/id/How-To-Quickly-Find-And-Trace-PCB-Tracks-1/>>

• Gregg W6IZT has a good way of using inexpensive plastic "dog bone" in-

sulators to hold up Beverages and other low horizontal wires. "I use a bolt that has a machine screw thread on one end and a wood screw thread on the other (available at hardware stores). Drill the end of the dog bone to accept the machine thread and thread the wood screw into a post, tree or whatever."

• When you are trying to disas-

semble triband Yagi traps and find the manufacturer has "dimpled" them to secure the cover in place, John G3JVC/GM3JVC turns to the advice of Ron GW3YDX. "Drill out the dimples, taking care not to drill into the internal concentric plastic insulator of the traps. Then by using blocks of wood and applying gentle force, slide the traps apart without resorting to bending the contact strip between the element and the outer cover of the trap, and thereby risking its fracture.."

- Gene AD3F's Tylon tower has angle steel legs, making securing cables to the leg a breeze. "To attach (the cables) to the tower I wrapped a single length of #12 solid insulated house wire

around the coax bundle, twisted it a couple of times, then ran a wire end through a pre-drilled hole and twisted both ends together. With this method I can re-enter the bundle to change or add cables, then reseal a few more times before I have to replace the wire."

- Bonding coax shields to a tower at top and bottom is good practice for preventing lightning damage but doing so without an expensive grounding kit or letting water into the braid is not simple. Dick WC1M suggests this procedure: "It consists of a long UHF barrel connector with a metal spring clamp (a U-shaped piece of metal) tightly wrapped around the middle and screwed down. The other end of the spring clamp is screwed to a

ground rod clamp large enough to go around a tower leg. The interface between the barrel connector and the metal clamp is waterproofed with coax seal and tape. I cut the feed line to the antenna near the fitting, attach PL-259 connectors to each free end, screw them into the barrel connector, and waterproof."

- Here's another handy cheap-and-effective project that uses a single hex inverter IC to make four different test gadgets! <<http://www.edn.com/design/test-and-measurement/4391393/Single-hex-inverter-IC-makes-four-test-gadgets?cid=Newsletter+-EDN+Design+Ideas>>

Swap 'n' Shop

For Sale: HP 1200 DTN Printer-auto-duplex unit, one 250-sheet input tray, built-in 802.3 wired

Fast Ethernet (RJ-45 connector), power cord, AC power adapter, software CD, USB 2.0 full speed port, IEEE

1284-compliant bidirectional parallel port. Asking \$150 contact Lee – KC8ITI

MARC Vital Statistics

Memberships Expiring in September

KD8HIH
WA8LQD

Memberships Expiring in October

K0ACP
KC8GRQ
N8FUZ

W8LSS
WD8AXR
WB8YAG

Memberships Expiring in November

None

Current Active Club Membership 50

Birthdays Celebrated in September/October

KC8ZMQ 9/6
N8STF 9/9
N8FUZ 9/17
KB8PGV 9/17
KB8SOE 9/19
KB8WEE 9/24
KC8GRQ 9/27

W8WOJ 10/3
KD8JQX 10/5
N8LTR 10/10
N8WTQ 10/10
WD4PIJ 10/13
KA0KPP 10/16
KC8TQU 10/19

WB8IDY 10/23
KB8PGW 10/25
N8OVT 10/27
KC0CJC 10/31

Anniversaries Celebrated in September/October

N8LBF and KB8QYC 9/6
W8JBD and ??? 09/10
KC0CJC and Sally 9/12
K8RI and N8JBW 9/26
KG8YG and Rachel 10/01

KD8CUX and ??? 10/04
KB8MCI and Cyndi 10/06
WB8RCR and Eileen 10/12
WB8IDY and Audrey 10/19
KB8SOE and Darcie 10/19

KC8GQK and Tera 10/20
KB8LQM and KC8IHB 10/23
NQ8T and Barbara 10/23

Information is from data received 8/13/2012

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