



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

President	Kevin Martin KD8QAM	(989) 513-0100
Vice President	Mark Rodgers KC8GRQ	(517) 672-1060
Secretary	Linda Hodges KC8MUD	(989) 486-3771
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W8KEA Station Trustee	Larry Macklin N8CGP	(989) 631-7748
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	Pat Mullet KC8RTW	(989) 828-6657
Swap Committee	Mark Rodgers KC8GRQ/Ch	(517) 672-1060
	Pat Mullet KC8RTW	(989) 828-6657

LIFE MEMBERS

Don W8WOJ, Lee KC8ITI, Dennis N8ERF, Larry N8CGP, Denny WD8BPT, John WB8RCR

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 July 2, 2015, 6:00 PM
Law Enforcement Center, 2727 Rodd St.
Next CLUB Meeting — Thursday July 2, 2015, 7:30 PM
Salvation Army Building, 330 Waldo.
Talk-in 147.000+

October 2015

Static Discharge

John, W8QN

Well it's the start of a new year in the club with almost a new slate of officers. I hope we can do as good a job as the previous slate.

We are looking for suggestions for topics that you would like to see presented in future meetings. If you would like to present a topic, add that to the list. Please get them to either Keith KB8SOE, or myself. My e-mail is w8qn@arrl.net. At the October meeting, Dennis Klipa will briefly discuss the upcoming 40 mtr receiver building project before we head into the main topic for the evening. I hope to see you there.

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



MARC Minutes

Linda Hodges, KC8MUD

MARC Minutes Sept. 3rd 2015

The meeting was called to order with 25 people present by Keven KD8QAM at 7:30 P.M.

Introductions were made and a sign-in sheet was passed around.

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@arri.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@arri.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.arri.org/arrivec/exam-search.phtml?State=MI>

SUBMISSIONS FOR NEWSLETTER

Contact Pat Mullet, KC8RTW at kc8rtw@arri.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 John, W8QN at w8qn@arri.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@arri.net) or Kevin (cherryredirocz@sbcglobal.net)

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

Presentations- Dennis N8ERF-The first was an informative talk about the Theory of Operations of a 40 meter receiver. The second invited members to participate in a Radio Build Workshop on October 3rd at 9:00A.M.. The cost is \$30.00. Discussions followed.

EC/RO Report-Dave N8LBF and Chris KB8UIH- Thanks to all who helped with the Equipment test at all four sites. Next SET scheduled for September 26th.

Treasurer's Report-Larry N8CGP-Special thanks to Dennis N8ERF for work he did that resulted in a nice donation to MARC.

Dirty Dog Run-Lee KC8ITI- A sign-up sheet was passed around to sign up for the Dirty Dog 5K/10K Run on September 19th. Assemble at 8:00a.m at City Forest. Race starts at 9:00.

Classes-Lee KC8ITI- Tech. Classes have been postponed to a later date.

Newsletters-Steve WA8Y-Newsletters are on line.

Retirement-John W8QN- John announced that he will be retiring from the High School Advisory Board.

Elections:

Secretary-	Linda KC8MUD	unopposed
Treasurer	Larry N8CGP	unopposed
Vice-President	Keith KB8SOE	unopposed
President	John W8QN	unopposed

A motion to close the elections made by Lee KC8ITI. Seconded , Passed

High School Club Update- Dennis N8ERF- More hands-on activities and less lecturing with a focus on electronics reaching out into the world. Two balloon launches have been scheduled.

Letters-Larry N8CGP- Larry shared a thank-you letter he received to Search and Rescue from Davidson Township P.D. for assistance in locating a nine year old boy.

*Amateur Radio
is a Contact Sport!*

NET CONTROLS: Sept. 10th John W8QN
 Sept. 17th Lee KC8ITI
 Sept. 24th Dave N8LBF

An adjournment motion was made by Larry N8CGP and seconded by Cindy WD8BDM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by
 Linda KC8MUD
 MARC Secretary

ARES®/RACES John Wolters, W8QN

A lot of changes have occurred and are coming in the ARES/RACES space.

First – Joe Tuscher, our Districe 3 EC has resigned due to family health issues. Replacing him is one of our members, Dave Walick, N8LBF. Congratulate him when you next see him.

Second – our county Emergency Coordinator, Roger Garner, plans to retire by the end of the year. A replacement has yet to be named. Hopefully the replacement will continue to see the value of Amateur Radio.

Public Service

John Wolters, W8QN

Two public service activities occurred in September. First was the Porter Township Safety Days Demonstration. Fire Equipment, Midland Swat, State Swat, Midland County Communications Vehicle, Midland County 911, multiple safety demonstrations, and Amateur Radio. Lee and Linda Hodges and myself setup 2 radio stations and demonstrated and talked about Amateur Radio.

SOS ANIMAL RESCUE

"DIRTY DOG RUN" 2015

Thanks to all of you who helped with this event on September 19th. Operators were: Lee, KC8ITI, John, W8QN, Linda, KC8MUD, Steve, WA8Y ,Dave, N8LBF and

Thanks to Lee and Linda.

Second was the Dirty Dog Run on Saturday Sept. 19. Lee and Linda Hodges, Dennis Klipa, Dave Walick, Steve Linley, and myself provided communications support for the 5 and 10k run walks. A little wet to start but ended up with a nice looking day. Thanks to all for your help.

Dennis, N8ERF. This was a 10K

run and a 5K run/walk through City Forest with participants competing with the companionship of their canine friends. The weather started out rainy with gusty winds which made set up a challenge. The good

Upcoming Events

Club build of a 40m RX Oct 3
 School Club Roundup Oct 19-23
 ARRL Sweepstakes CW Nov 7-9
 ARRL Sweepstakes PH Nov 21-23

Michigan Hamfests

10/3	Wyoming GRA
10/17	Muskegon
10/18	Kalamazoo
12/6	Mount Clemens
1/24	Hazel Park*
2/21	Livonia*

* Denotes date based on 2016 event

Area Nets

SVARA; Mn, 147.24 MHz, 2100 ET
 Gladwin; Tu, 147.18 MHz, 2000 ET
 BAARC; Tu, 145.31 MHz, 2100 ET
 Isabella Co EOC 146.72 Mhz, 1900 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.

news is the rain and wind stopped before the race started. Of course the rain caused poor track conditions within City Forest so our people had to be extra vigilant to keep the runners safe. I let the coordinators have a 2 meter receiver so they could listen in on our traffic and they were impressed with our ability to keep track of things. Again, Thanks to all of the ham operators who helped with this event.
Lee – KC8ITI

Lee, KC8ITI gets a nice note from SOS Group via his Daughter

Hey Dad,

I had a little recap note for Joanne Taylor from SOS about the race last weekend and I wanted to share part of it with you:

"This was a pretty chaotic year. I did not expect such a challenge even if it did rain.

Without a doubt the one piece of sanity at the event was the MMARC team.

They knew what they were supposed to do and did it with professionalism.

They were the one piece that kept me sane during the day because I knew if there was an issue on the course they would identify it. I am so glad they came and appreciate their ability to handle stress and remain flexible."

Maybe you can share this with your group, especially the ones who took time out, in the rain, to be there.

Good Stuff!!

My Ham Activity

WA8Y

FT-450 (non - D version) Upgrade
I finally got my laptop in the same room as my Dad's FT-450 (non-D) transceiver. I upgraded the firmware of his FT-450 (non-D) from version 0196 to version 0228 and now he can transmit on all five 60 meter channels. I got the free firmware upgrade software from Yaesu. I also needed a Windows 7 USB to RS-232 cable and a gender adapter, since my cable and the rig has the same RS-232 male plug. I had the cable and found the gender changer at the Dayton Hamvention. His built-in Antenna Tuner is not enough to tune his G5RV antenna to a 1:1 SWR but he still gets out. I and Denny, WA8NSS, Grayling and another ham in Toledo, OH could copy my Dad in Roscommon 59.

He has since made a few other 60 meter contacts and occasionally the tuner is able to achieve a 1:1 match. I will be giving his antenna a check up before winter.

I have come to realize that mobile antennas require maintenance. If nothing else, you have to clean the unsightly bugs off of them with each car wash. And oh, those car washes have to be done by hand. My VHF/UHF antenna require little maintenance (a Larson magnet-mount), I can quickly stow it inside the car before going through the car wash. But HF mobile antennas will not go through a car wash. And I found that every few months I need to clean some non-stainless hardware, repaint the bumper hitch/antenna mount and

occasionally fix something more serious. My last repair was due to water damage. I'd taken the top whip section off, in order to fit the car in the garage, but instead left the car out because the space was occupied with other projects. Without the top whip and rain cap water found its way inside and corroded everything. The antenna was disassembled and all the internals replaced. Another time a bolt connecting the antenna to the SO-239 became loose. Signals were cutting in and out as you can imagine. I found a way to tighten that bolt so it won't likely come loose again. Building, improving and maintaining my Home Brew Screwdriver antenna has been a fun challenge. The commercial versions all require similar service. At the Dayton

Hamvention, Tarheel was selling maintenance kits for their Screwdriver antennas. This time, what broke was a metal contact in the battery box of the \$8.88 cordless screwdriver. After making repairs my Up/Down Switch works. I'm back in business. I'm actually getting pretty good at taking it apart, repairing, cleaning and putting it back together. I came up with some pretty ingenious ways to hold it together. I also improved the support bracket, which speeds up the time it takes me to mount the antenna to my SUV. I suppose I'll eventually have to change the coax but coax-seal tape, wrapped in black electrical tape, is keeping the connection clean and non-sticky.

I've been doing a lot of satellite communications with my Icom 7000 and Arrow antenna. I set-up my GoPro to record everything. This really helps when I go to log QSOs. I managed to work K2P and W3P during the Pope's visit on the FO-29 satellite. Will Halphen has also enjoyed working satellites with me. He has the WRAPS AZ-EL rotor connected to SATPC32 which means I don't have to hold and aim the antenna. We have had some good QSOs from my QTH and we recently tried operating from Overlook Park. We heard the AO-73 telemetry beacon and a couple of stations but made no QSOs.

After borrowing a dongle SDR from Keith, KB8SOE I bought one. I showed mine at a club meeting a few month ago. If you

don't have one, I highly recommend buying one. They are such a handy tool (piece of test equipment) to have. Talk to Keith, KB8SOE, he's been using them for years and knows a lot about them. I have one of the many RTL-SDR's and I am running SDR Sharp (the software). These SDR's are inexpensive and versatile. I can tune my RTL-SDR from 100 KHz to 1.7 GHz. Detected signals are displayed on a spectrum scope and waterfall display (on your PC screen). Decoded modulation modes include; FM, AM, CW, SSB, etc. Will, K8VFO used his SDR to show the improved Signal to Noise Ratio he got when inserting his home brew VHF/UHF preamp into the feed line of his Arrow antenna. Hearing the difference is one thing but seeing is believing!

Dave Wallick and Will Halphen recently told me about China's recent launch of fifteen Amateur satellites. By the next day I had read enough to copy the beacons from several XW-2 birds, and heard a few hams making QSOs thru them but I have yet to make a QSO thru these birds. AMSAT recently updated pass predictions for several XW-2 birds, it seems their orbits are right behind each other. I recorded the telemetry. If you want to decode the CW follow this link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xrfP6jMmTo>

The Sweepstakes is coming. How do I know? I just got a certificate from the ARRL. It turns out I took First Place, Michigan Section

Single Operator High Power CW! That really surprises me! My score was lower than last year but I still won! I won in 2013 also (then too, it was a total and very good surprise)! Well its not likely to happen this year, no way am I going to three-peat, impossible. But I hope I'm able to participate. The ARRL CW Sweepstakes this November 7-9 and the Phone contest is Nov 21-23. It sure is fun to play radio but each year it gets harder as my back gets stiff and sore from sitting all those hours.

I worked E6GG, DXpedition on Niue, in the South Pacific IOTA OC-040. I managed to work them on 17m, 12m, 20m, and 30m in that order. TX3X Dxpediton will be operating from Chesterfield Islands October 1-12. I just bought a 40m QRP transceiver kit for \$4.44 on ebay.

I won't be at the group build of the 40 meter receiver but Dave, N8LBF and I will have ours built before the November meeting. See you at the October 1st club meeting. I offer these videos for your viewing pleasure.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I92bmGQaPpg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3tULsFJyPHA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=menJKdVq35A>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tcEQlk3jV3E>

Technical Topics and Information

Icom's first SDR (RF Direct Sampling) transceiver, the IC-7300 is on its way. It will sell for about \$1300 and offers a "high-resolution real-time spectrum scope" with waterfall function and "touch screen". Other features include; built-in automatic antenna tuner, Voice, CW and RTTY memory keyers, RTTY decode log function (think K-3), Screen Capture, SD card, USB for CI-V and audio interfaces, 100w HF/50W on 6 meters, SSB, CW, RTTY, AM and FM modes.

More at

<http://www.icomamerica.com/en/products/amateur/hf/7300/default.aspx>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TYo8JD8KkmM>

Thinking of going portable?

Lead-Acid, Ni-Cad, and Ni-MH batteries can do the job but they may not be the best choice for portable operations. Do you know about Li-Po batteries? If you fly model R/C like I do, then you know a lot about Li Po batteries. But many hams haven't heard of them. Lithium Polymer batteries are great for portable operations because they pack a lot of power into a small light-weight package. They have a tremendous power to weight ratio (think electric airplanes and helicopters). But there is a problem. A 3-cell LiPo battery, known as a 3S battery because it has 3 cells in series, has a nominal voltage of 10.8 VDC, and a fully charged output of 12.6 volts. However a 4-cell LiPo battery (4S) has a nominal voltage of 14.4 VDC and fully charged output of 16.8 VDC. So a 3 cell LiPo is too small and a 4 cell LiPo is too big. But there is a way to make a 4 cell battery just right.

A simple way to drop about 2 volts is to place two inexpensive diodes in series with a 4 cell (4S) battery. A 1N5401 diode has forward voltage drop of about a 1 volt and can handle a 3A forward current. And that's enough forward current to supply all the necessary current to a; KX3, FT-817, and most any QRP and/or mobile 2m FM rig. Note; A 10 watt rig draws less than 1 A in TX and far less in RX.

Need a diode that can handle more Amps? How about a 844-30CTT100 Schottky diode from Mouser (\$1.09)? It has a forward current rating of 30 Amps and a Vf of .92v. I have a 25A Full Wave Bridge in spare parts, half of it would work perfect for this application.

A couple of drawbacks to these batteries; for a short time, LiPo batteries can deliver 30 Amps and even 100 Amps, so be careful, not to short them out. And these batteries must be charged correctly. You'll need a special Charging/Storage bag, made with Kevlar (\$3) and a Li Po Charger/Balancer (\$25). The good news, a 5 AH 4S hard case (Turnigy brand SKU5000 4S-20HC from HobbyKing) battery is selling for \$26.18 and weighs just 1 lb 5 oz. (598 g). That's enough battery to power your 10 watt rig for almost 8 hours under continuous transmit or perhaps 24 hours of casual operating. Oh, one more thing, do not discharge Li Po batteries beyond safe levels (3.6v per cell or 14.4v for a 4S battery) because it shortens battery life.

So I'm thinking of trying portable operations with my IC-7000 and my back pack Arrow antenna. Working satellites is all about collecting grid squares and activating rare grids.

But for now I prefer operating from my SUV. My backpacking days are over.

Steve, WA8Y

It's Not Your Grandfather's Amateur Radio!

Midland High School Electronic and Wireless Communications Club News

In order to better represent to the students what it is that we do, we have changed the advertised name of the club to the "Electronics and Wireless Communications Club". We are currently gearing up for our third year. With the sunspot cycle crashing to a healthy low, we won't forget HF communications but we will be focusing on electronics and other forms of wireless communications.

I want to thank the Midland Kiwanis for a \$5000 grant to the club for equipment and software to support the continued development of communication and tracking technology with the International Space Station and other activities of the club. This is a huge boost to our Satellite Communications program. THANK YOU!

We have also changed the night on which the club will be

meeting. We will now be meeting on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in Room 321, Midland High School. Our continued thanks to Andrew Fawcett for the use of his Physics classrooms!

There are three major areas of focus of the committee right now. First, based on our learnings from the first two years of operation, we are changing our curriculum. Second, since we only have two returning students, Max and Bryce, we are placing a major focus on recruitment. Third, we are focused on designing our Satellite Communications station equipment.

I am pleased to announce that the Northeast Middle School Electronics and Wireless Communication Club will also be starting up this fall, with teacher, Bernadette Wood, and Will Halphen, K8VFO, partnering with me to make this happen. The club

will be meeting after school on Wednesday evenings.

Keep an eye on this spot as I will be reporting on our second balloon launch adventure which is scheduled for October!

I wish to express my sincere thank you to the Midland Kiwanis for their generous donation and to the following folks who continue to volunteer their time, knowledge and enthusiasm to help make this happen; Andrew Fawcett-KD8ULJ, Lee Hodges-KC8ITI, Art Peters-K0ACP, Will Halphen-K8VFO, Dennis Caney-WD8BPT, John Henley-AC8QF, John McDonough-WB8RCR, John Wolters-W8QN, and Bernadette Wood.

Best Regards,
Dennis Klipa, N8ERF
Advisory Board Chair
N8ERF@arrl.net

September 2015 Michigan Section News

September, 2015

Greetings to the Hams of Michigan:

It is hard to believe that summer is all but over and the leaves even in the most southern portions of the state are beginning to turn colors. While fall is my favorite time of the year, I have to say that I don't really look forward to the winter season. The good news is that I generally don't have to get out in the white

stuff unless I choose to.

Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015

Attention Club Presidents:

We still need more pressure to be placed on MI Senators Peters and Stabenow to co-sponsor and support Senate Bill S1685. Making a general call for individuals to write letters to their elected representatives, but the real truth of the matter is that the

actual percentage of hams that individually take the requested action is pretty small.

You can change that little dose of reality. Do the work for your club members and make it easy for them to take that action. Here is how to do it:

In advance of your next meeting, prepare two letters, one addressed to Senator Stabenow and the other addressed to Senator Peters.

You can find the appropriate

Explore the World with Amateur Radio!

letters here:
<http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-parity-act>.

Remove the sender's name and address prompts from the bottom of each letter. Print or copy the appropriate numbers of letters and take them to your club meeting. Ask that all hams that have not yet sent a letter to their Senators to sign one letter for each Senator and add their printed name and callsign, signature, address, city, state and zip code. Bring a handful of pens so that no one has to stand in line waiting for a pen to use. In 10 minutes you can have 30 or more letters signed for each Senator.

Collect the completed letters, and mail them to ARRL HQ at:

ARRL

225 Main St

Newington, CT 06111

Attn: S1685 Grassroots campaign

Or, if you would like to avoid the postage costs, you can scan the signed letters into PDF format and then email them to: reginfo@arrl.org.

Please include "S1685 Grassroots Letter" in the subject field of your email.

All letters sent to ARRL HQ (email or snail mail) will be printed and hand delivered to the respective Senator's offices in Washington.

Please send me a note (wb8r@arrl.org) to advise how many letters your club has signed and sent to HQ.

2015 Michigan Simulated Emergency Test

The Michigan Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is scheduled a week earlier this year to avoid the opening of bow season which in the past has asked a significant number of individuals to choose between hunting and participating in the exercise. Hopefully the change will have a positive effect on participation. If you need information, you can locate contact information for your County EC and your District EC here: <http://ares-mi.org/ECcontact.php>. You can contact your Section EC at wb8rcr@arrl.net.

Hospitality Acknowledgements

Sep 14, 2015 Holland
ARC

It was a pleasure to attend your club meeting and I thank you for the hospitality you have shown.

Hamfests, Meetings and Section Staff Travel Plans

Sep 17, 2015 Monroe
County Radio Comm. Assn
Meeting – WB8R

Sep 19, 2015 GMARC
Fall Trunk Swap

Sep 20, 2015 Adrian

Hamfest, Adrian, MI – WB8R

Sep 26, 2015 QMN
Picnic, Flint MI – WB8R

Oct 1, 2015 Muskegon
ARC, Muskegon, MI – WB8R

Oct 3, 2015
GRAHamfest, Wyoming, MI –
WB8R

Oct 15, 2015 SMARS
Meeting, Battle Creek, MI –
WB8R

Oct 17, 2015 Muskegon
Color Tour, Muskegon, MI –
WB8R

Oct 18, 2015 Kalamazoo
Hamfest, Kalamazoo, MI –
WB8R

Oct 25, 2015 USECA
Hamfest, Madison Heights, MI –
WB8R

Dec 6, 2015 L'Anse
Creuse Hamfest, Harrison Twp MI
– WB8R

Michigan Section Traffic/ARPSC Nets (All times Local)

MACS - MI Amateur
Communications System 3.952
1000 Daily

UPN – Upper Peninsula Net 3.921
1700 Daily; Noon Sunday

MIARPSC – MI Amateur Radio
Public Service Corps 3.932 1700
Sunday

QMN – The Michigan Net 3.563
1830 and 2200 Daily

MITN – MI Traffic Net 3.952
1900 Daily

MIDTN – MI Digital Traffic Net
3.583 (Olivia 8/500) in waterfall
2000 Tues, Thurs, Sat

MIADS – MI ARES D-Star Net
Reflector 24A Mon 2000

D8EN - District 8 Emergency Net
3.909 Wed 2100

GLETN – Great Lakes
Emergency and Traffic Net 3.932
2000 Daily

MVTN – MI VHF Traffic Net
IRA Link System 2100 Mon,
Wed, Fri, Sun

NLEUP - Northern Lower Eastern
UP Net 146.64- 18:30 Daily

SEMTN – SE MI Traffic Net
146.76- 2215 Daily

TMMTN – Thumb Mid-Michigan
Traffic Net 147.30+ 2130 Mon -
Sat

More information is available at
<http://nts-mi.org/>. Come join us
on our traffic and public service
nets.

*Amateur Radio Public Service
Corps (ARPS) Activities*

SARs for August, 2015: WB9JSR
725, WB8WKQ 200, K8ED 112,
K8RDN 107, WB8TQZ 105,
N8FVM 98, WD8USA 50,
WD8MWD 40, W8MSK 34,
KC8BW 20, N8OSL 13,
WB8RCR 13, KD8ULU 12,
WB8R 9, KD8LSM 2, N8UN 2.

Total SAR reported: 1542

BPL for August, 2015: WB9JSR
725.

PSHRs for August, 2015: N8OSL
358, N8FVM 240, WB8RCR 233,
WD8MWD 195, WB8R 188,
KC8YVF 150, WD8USA 135,
WB9JSR 120, WB8WKQ 110,
WB8TQZ 110, K8RDN 99,
NE8B 95, K8ED 77, KC8BW 54,
KD8LSM 30, KC8NFN 28,
KD8ULU 17, N8QVQ 2.

Net traffic for August, 2015: The
Michigan Net 155, Michigan
Traffic Net 127, Michigan
Amateur Communications
System 114, Upper Peninsula Net
45, Michigan VHF Traffic Net 36,
Great Lakes Emergency and
Traffic Net 35, Southeastern
Michigan Traffic Net 26,
Michigan Digital Traffic Net 15,
District 3 ARPSC Net 5, Northern
Lower Eastern Upper Peninsula
Net 5, Saginaw County ARES
Net 4, Red Cross Net of Greater
Grand Rapids 1, Genesee County
ARPSC Traffic and Training Net ,
District 5 Hospital Net , Oakland
County Amateur Radio Society
Net , District 8 Emergency Net ,
Michigan Amateur Radio Public
Service Corps , Chelsea ARC Net
, Bay Area Regional Traffic
System , Branch County
Emergency Net .

Total net traffic reported: 568

If you are reporting monthly,
you can see your PSHR
eligibility status at
<http://www.nts-mi.org/>. The
full details are at:

[http://www.arrl.org/public-
service-honor-roll](http://www.arrl.org/public-service-honor-roll). This award
recognizes the efforts of hams
that are active in public
service. Those reporting
accumulate points for
checking into nets,
volunteering, holding Section
appointment(s) and handling
message traffic.

EC's can see their reports of
Form FSD-212 here:
http://ares-mi.org/ec_his.php If
you send your report to
WB8RCR and don't see it
noted there, send a note to
John to tell him your report
has gone missing. EC's: Be
sure to share your FSD 212
with your District EC, your
ARES/RACES members and
with your county's Emergency
Manager and others in your
jurisdiction who need to know
what you and your
ARES/RACES group are
contributing to your
community each month.

If you have difficulty knowing
how to report and how to
complete the FSD 212 form,
assistance is as close as your
District EC or your Section
EC. If you don't know who
these folks are, you can locate
them here: [http://ares-
mi.org/ECcontact.php](http://ares-mi.org/ECcontact.php). They
stand ready to help you.

Until next time,

73,

Larry, WB8R

More Technical Topics and Information

ARRL New England Division
Convention Fields Remote Site
Special Event W1A

Special event station W1A at the ARRL New England Division Convention August 21-23 in Boxboro, Massachusetts, was "special" in more than one respect. For starters, it did not have any antennas at the convention site. Instead, the convention hotel served as the control point for "remote base" sites in Vermont, Massachusetts, Manitoba, and even Poland. Dennis Egan, W1UE, and Gerry Hull, W1VE, remote enthusiasts who oversaw the special event, said the fully remote base operation was a first for the W1A special event. Egan, a member of the convention organizing committee, convinced his colleagues to go with the remote option. Gerry Hull, W1VE, operates CW at the New England Division Convention's W1A special event station. [Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, photo]

"We managed slightly more than 1800 QSOs, despite rotten conditions," Hull said. "We were using mainly K2LE/1 in Vermont, and K1TTT in Massachusetts -- both big contest stations." In the past, the New England Division Convention W1A special event station has erected temporary antennas outside the hotel.

Hull also reported one "special QSO." ARRL officials spoke with a camper at the Courage Kenny Handiham System's Camp Courage. Directed by Patrick Tice, WA0TDA, Handiham is an organization for radio amateurs with disabilities. W1A enjoyed a successful contact with W0EQO at the camp in Maple Lake, Minnesota. ARRL COO Harold Kramer, WJ1B, extended greetings to the

campers on behalf of the League and those at the convention. Camp volunteer Matt Arthur, KA0PQW, operated W0EQO. The Handiham Remote Base HF Stations offer the opportunity for members to operate through a PC or Android device, if they live where they can't have antennas. More at

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter?issue=2015-09-17#toc05>

After a few postponements, nine Chinese satellites carrying Amateur Radio payloads were launched on September 19 at 2300 UTC, separating from the Long March (Chang Zheng 6) launch vehicle about 15 minutes later. Four of the microsatellites and two of the CubeSats included in the launch have been designated as XW-2A through XW-2F. The other three satellites -- a CubeSat, a nanosatellite, and a picosatellite -- carry the designations CAS-3G, CAS-3H (LilacSat-2), and CAS-3I (NUDT-Phone-Sat), respectively. All of the new satellites have 2 meter downlinks and 70 centimeter uplinks. Satellite enthusiasts have been enjoying the sudden surfeit of spacecraft to work.

"So many signals, so little time," observed Tennessee resident Alan Biddle, WA4SCA, on the AMSAT-BB. China Amateur Satellite Group CAMSAT CEO Alan Kung, BA1DU, told ARRL that the anticipated life of the satellite cluster is 3 years.

"Very good copy on CW beacons on [XW-2] A, B, C, D, E, F. Strong!" Clayton Coleman, W5PFG, reported from Texas. The nine satellites are in fairly close proximity in orbits about 310

miles up, and the AMSAT Online Satellite Pass Predictions page lists all under "XW-2."

Shortly after the launch, W5PFG and fellow Texan Glenn Miller, AA5PK, worked each other via CAS-3F. He reported the CW beacons were strong on all of the CAMSAT satellites. Special event stations commemorating the US visit of Pope Francis announced plans to be active on some XW-2 passes.

The CW beacons carry individual call signs for the satellites as well as telemetry in the form of three-character text groups and the word "CAMSAT." Text copied from XW-2A through XW-2F indicated call signs BJ1SB through BJ1SG, respectively.

The satellites have been heard around the world. "Good signals from CAS-3F at 0700 UTC," reported David Bowman, G0MRF, who was at the Rugby World Cup special event station GB0RWC. He reported contacts with SP5ULN and F1AFZ.

"The polarity shifts were challenging to keep up with, but other than that, signals were strong," reported Mark Hammond, N8MH, in North Carolina, after using the XW-2E transponder on a September 20 pass. "Congratulations to CAMSAT and everyone involved in these projects."

In addition to the Chinese satellites, the Brazilian Serpens satellite, launched on September 17 from the ISS, has been heard. More at <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter?issue=2015-09-24#toc01>

MARC Vital Statistics

MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRING IN SEPTEMBER 2015

None

MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRING IN OCTOBER 2015

KD8ULT KD8ZKG N8FUZ W8LSS WD8AXR

MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRING IN NOVEMBER 2015

KC8IHB

CURRENT ACTIVE CLUB MEMBERSHIP 36

BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED IN SEPTEMBER 2015

KC8ZMQ 9/6 N8STF 9/9 N8FUZ 9/17 KB8PGV 9/17
KB8SOE 9/19 KB8WEE 9/24 KC8GRQ 9/27 KC8YTK 9/29

BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED IN OCTOBER 2015

W8WOJ 10/3 W8ZSX 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 2015

N8LBF and KB8QYC 9/6 W8JBD and ??? 9/10
KC0CJC and Sally 9/12 K8RI and N8JBW 9/26

ANNIVERSARIES CELEBRATED IN OCTOBER 2015

KG8YG and Rachel 10/1 KD8CUX and ??? 10/4
KB8MCI and Cyndi 10/6 WB8RCR and Eileen 10/12
WB8IDY and Audrey 10/19 KB8SOE Darcie and 10/19
KC8GQK and Tera 10/20 KB8LQM and KC8IHB 10/23
NQ8T and Barbara 10/23

Information is from data received 6/12/2015

Any corrections or questions contact Larry, N8CGP

ARES/RACES Volunteers Activate for California Wildfires

ARES/RACES Volunteers
Activate for California Wildfires

Radio amateurs responded to the ongoing wildfire emergency in California. Earlier this month, ARES volunteers in Amador County supported communications at a Red Cross shelter at the Jackson Rancheria Conference Center, ...

Edwards said 20 operators took part in the activation, with two

operators per shift. The station at the shelter was active for 120 hours.

Bill Gustavson, K6BIL, who took part in the Amador County ARES response, said that at one point, with cell phone, Internet, television, and landline down, "my only source of information was ham radio. The radio was the only outside link to the world."

He also said he was amazed to learn how many nonhams listen

on scanners.

As some roads in the area reopened and evacuees were able to return home, Amador County ARES was released from supporting Red Cross shelter communication early on September 14. The Butte fire also extended into Calaveras County, in the ARRL San Joaquin Valley Section. More at

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter?issue=2015-09-17>

Amateur Radio. . . We Do That!



Steve Linley filling in for Pat Mullet
as Newsletter Editor
2311 N Aspen Ridge Dr
Midland, MI 48642

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