W8KEA MARC

SPECIAL SERVICES CLUB

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	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+

November 2015

Static Discharge — *John, W8QN*

As you are reading this we are moving into the month of November. Time to wrap up outside Antenna projects and get ready for winter. Speaking of Antenna projects, the main antenna and coax feed line for the main repeater site have now (finally) been replaced. Initial and follow on reports say that we have improved what the repeater is able to hear. I want to thank Lee Hodges for his assistance on the day of the install, assisting the installers. The main site and the Edenville remote site are active. Work on the West Midland remote remains to be done. Look for a brief report at the November meeting and follow on discussion of what we could do next at future club meetings.

MARC Minutes — Linda Hodges, KC8MUD

MARC Minutes October 1st 2015

The meeting was called to order by John W8QN at 7:35 P.M. with 27 people present. A sign-in sheet was passed around and introductions were made.

Please bring any additions or corrections to these minutes to the attention of the secretary.

Presentation- Dennis N8ERF- Dennis brought a great film from this years Hamvention featuring young students giving reports about their antenna and radio projects, and an astronaut interview.

High School School Club-Dennis N8ERF- The first two Electronics and Wireless Club Meetings have been very successful with many students interested. Soldering, putting circuits together and fox-hunting all lead up to the balloon launches.

Middle School Club- A separate but similar club is being started in the middle school and many students want to participate. If you are able to help out with the Middle School Club please let Dennis N8ERF know.

Saturday 'Build' Project-Dennis N8ERF-For those who have signed up come prepared with tools and a soldering iron if you have one to build your own radio.

Dirty Dog Run- Lee KC8ITI-Thank you to everybody who helped. And thanks from the organizers for the professionalism our club offers to their event.

Tech. Class-Lee KC8ITI -New Classes are held on Mondays and Thursdays.

Repeater work- John W8QN- The repeater may be down Saturday Morning for work. After the work is done check to see where your hand-helds can or cannot be heard.

Museum Ship- Walt WB8WNF-On Oct 16th,17th and 18th in conjunction with the 76th anniversary of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, the radio room of the USS Edson will be activated in Bay City. Operators are needed to help on Saturday afternoon and evening.

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 John, W8QN at w8qn@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)

Amateur Radio is a Contact Sport!

Congratulations to Steve WA8Y for his First Place, CW ARRL Sweepstakes Award, for the Michigan Section Single Operator on High Power.

Also, Steve said the Newsletter is on the website.

Treasurer's Report- Larry N8CGP- Thank-you to all those who have renewed their dues

NET Control: Oct. 8th Bob W8LSS.
Oct. 15th Chris KB8UIH
Oct. 22nd Keith KB8SOE ?
Oct. 29th John W8QN

Query-Chris KB8UIH- Anybody have some 8x Coax for Chris please let him know.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 P.M.
Respectfully Submitted
Linda KC8MUD
MARC Secretary

ARES®/RACES John Wolters, W8QN

At the November meeting we will again be working with FLDIGI. If you plan to attend and have a laptop with FLDIGI installed, please bring it. If you would like to install FLDIGI, bring your laptop and I will have the software available.
For follow up of our Packet exercise – the problem with the LEC packet station turned out to be a TNC parameter set wrong. As a result the audio tone out of the radio was not strong enough to decode by other stations. That has been corrected and the documentation on the PC's will be updated.

Contest Corner Art Peters, K0ACP

Well folks with the arrival of fall, is the start of the 2015 – 2016 contest season. Radio Sport opportunities abound. This past weekend was the Stew Perry 160m CW warm-up to get ready for the Big Stew at the end of December. Also, this coming week, Oct 19, is the ARRL School Club Roundup – SCR. This year we will be activating W8MHS along with the

Upcoming Events

ARRL Sweepstakes CW Nov 7-9
ARRL Sweepstakes PH Nov 21-23
CQ WW CW Nov 28-29

Michigan Hamfests

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.

high school radio club, Electronic Wireless Communication Club, Tuesday – Friday for a couple of hours each evening. Finally, don't forget that November is Sweepstakes month – perhaps my favorite of all contests. Last year our own Steve Linley, WA8Y, won the Michigan Section for CW! Way to go Steve. If you have any questions regarding contesting, don't hesitate to reach out to either of us. Till next month, 73 es Gud Luk de Art/K0ACP

My Ham Activity WA8Y

Got my 40m RX kit. And I got my $4.44 QRP transceiver kit. The Receiver can tune the 40 m band in VFO mode and listen -/+ 2 to 3 KHz of the 7.030 crystal in XTAL mode. The $4.44 transceiver came with a 7.023 MHz XTAL and its RX can tune -/+ from there. I purchased a 7.050 MHz crystal for under five dollars from a crystal company. Now I can also operate closer to the QRP hang out frequency of 7.060 MHz. The 7.030 MHz frequency is also a favorite hang out for QRPers.

When I connected my 40m RX, in XTAL mode, to my antennas. Sensitivity was good. I was please to hear so many signals in the afternoon. Selectivity is accomplished between your ears as some signals are high in pitch and some are low in pitch. It was definitely fun building it. I then made my first modification. I switched to VFO mode by moving the two jumper plugs. The RX covers the entire 40 meter band in VFO mode. But finding the sweet spot for C21 was tricky. Lucky for me it was in a good spot when I first started. And I was able to tune it from either 6.9 to 7.2 MHz and that was fine with me. A slight tweak to C21 and I was able to tune 7.050 to 7.330. Overall I thinks its a pretty hot little receiver.

Next I build my $4.44 (plus $1.99 shipping) 40 meter, 1.5 Watt, transceiver. The Pixie, I discovered, has been around in various forms since 1980s. The receiver is nothing more than an amplified crystal set. And the transmitter is made from 2 small transistors. As you could see in the YouTube video I included in the October newsletter, the Pixie lacks a side tone. Well its kind of difficult to send CW without a side tone, so that has to be the first modification. The kit had several extra capacitors and one missing resistor (47K ohms). I got the TX working and I can hear it on my Icom IC 7410. And that is my side tone for now, but I can also hear the local oscillator. I was unable to hear any signals or measure any wattage. In the YouTube video from last month I can see his watt meter needle move a few needle widths and his unit is receiving signals. Mine is dead and so far I don't know what is wrong with it.

I also purchased an 8w 40 meter QRP transceiver with a built-in keyer for $21.95. The receiver is using the NE602 chip. The transmitter output is about 3 watts at 9volts and 4 watts at 12 volts. I haven't finish building it yet.

October 16th to 18th I helped Walt, WB8WNF activate W8K, special event station commemorating the 76th anniversary of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. We operated from the radio room of the USS Edson, the museum ship on the river in Bay City. I got there on Friday, in time to help Walt set-up 40 and 20 meter antennas. We used the ship's signal flag halyards to pull up two dipoles. Walt built two Band Pass Filter stubs and we also used my 40 meter BPF (Array Solutions). The station antennas were pointing at each other and less than 50 feet apart but we had no trouble operating both stations simultaneously. My BPF and the stubs Walt made worked very well. My Mini VNA showed the stubs were cut to pass the CW portion of the bands but they still worked great in the phone section of each band. Walt and I will be trying some new stubs which could make it possible to run both CW and Phone stations on the same band during Field Day. W8K made 154 QSOs and in the process contacted 33 states, 3 provinces and 4 countries.

I've been getting up early to work some DXpeditions. I managed to work TX3X in the Chesterfield Islands (on 80, 40 and 15m) and T2GC in Tuvalu (on 80 and 17 m). The Dxpeditions I'm chasing now are; S79SP, V73D, and E30FB. I worked each of them on a few bands, and I'm looking for DU3LA and DU7ET on 160 thru 30 meters. I also worked a new

country, 3B6/DJ7RJ in Agalega and St. Brandon in the Indian Ocean. I am trying to work XX9TIH from Macao on any band.

I also enjoyed competing in the CQ WW SSB contest. It was a good contest for me, I was able to work some new ones on 10m (don't have a ten meter ant.) and a few other bands.

The mail carrier delivered two awards from the Michigan QSO Party 2014. I took 3rd place overall in the Contest compared to all Operators in Michigan and first place in Midland county.
See you at the meeting,
Steve, WA8Y

Technical Topics and Information

AO-85 Enthusiasm Prevails at AMSAT 2015 Space Symposium and Annual Meeting

Excitement and enthusiasm over the recently launched Fox-1A CubeSat, now known as AO-85, permeated the just-concluded AMSAT 2015 Space Symposium and Annual Meeting. Nearly 120 attended the gathering October 16-18 in Dayton, Ohio. AMSAT Vice President for Engineering Jerry Buxton, N0JY, told his forum that AO-85 is working well and that telemetry reports from users have been extremely helpful. Buxton told his forum audience that the Fox team is mulling what might be causing what he called "a perceived loss of sensitivity" on the AO-85 70 centimeter receiver. "There's a lot of speculation," he allowed. He also discussed the subsequent entries in the Fox CubeSat series. The AO-85 transponder is unavailable for general use until October 23 for further commissioning. more at http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter?issue=2015-10-22#toc08

"I have been informed of the successful launch today, October 8, 2015, of the AMSAT-NA-built Fox-1A CubeSat. I am also informed that the satellite has been heard by several amateurs in various countries," Tynan said in a news release. "This successful launch comes after years of diligent and dedicated work on the part of AMSAT-NA volunteers including Tony Monteiro, AA2TX, who became a Silent Key in March 2014. It was Tony who spearheaded and guided the work on all AMSAT-NA CubeSats until his untimely passing. Thus, it is only fitting that this spacecraft be dedicated to his memory." As Tynan noted, Jerry Buxton, N0JY, took over Monteiro's post of AMSAT-NA Vice President for Engineering, and successfully completed the project through its preparation for launch.

"All of those who had a part in designing, constructing, and testing Fox-1A and its various subsystems are to be congratulated for jobs well done," Tynan said.

The **Fox-1A Mode B (U/V) FM transponder** has an **uplink frequency of 435.180 MHz (67 Hz tone), and a downlink frequency of 145.980 MHz**. AMSAT's Online Satellite Pass Predictions utility can determine AO-85 passes over a given location.

"A Great Day"

Telemetry and a distinctive voice ID from the new CubeSat have been heard around the world, and numerous contacts have been completed during times the transponder has been open. Fox-1A/AO-85 telemetry reports -- raw and decoded -- are now available on the AMSAT website. Fox-1A employs Data Under Voice (DUV) to send 200 bps FSK telemetry data at the same time as FM audio by making use of sub-audible frequencies below 200 Hz. High-speed 9600 bps FSK also can be transmitted when the transponder is not operating for data-intensive experiments and is only active when commanded from the ground. Free FoxTelem telemetry decoder software is available to decode both DUV and high-speed telemetry. AMSAT has also posted a Fox Operating Guide. more at http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter?issue=2015-10-15

ARRL News and Information

ARRL Education & Technology Program Grant Application Deadline Looms

November 1 is the deadline for schools to apply for 2016 ARRL Education & Technology Program (ETP) grants.

The ETP offers two types of grants. School Station Grants are awarded to schools providing a plan to use Amateur Radio as part of an enrichment program and/or as part of in-classroom learning. ETP Progress Grants offer modest support to teachers now using Amateur Radio as an instructional tool who need additional resources for specific purposes. Progress grants are also available for teachers who need resources to start teaching wireless technology and electronics topics as part of a longer-range plan to involve Amateur Radio.

A primary ETP objective is to boost wireless technology literacy among US students and educators through Amateur Radio.

"Amateur Radio provides hands-on opportunities for students to learn about radio science!" said ARRL Educational Services Manager Debra Johnson, K1DMJ. "We look for commitment from teachers and school administrators, a well-conceived plan to use the resources to engage students, and a working relationship with local ham radio volunteers who are willing to serve as mentors," she explained.

Applicants should review and complete the ETP grant application form. Submitted applications are evaluated on several criteria.

The ETP depends upon the sustaining support of the Amateur Radio community. Since its inception in 2000, the program has grown to benefit more than 550 schools. The program welcomes your donation. For more information, contact Debra Johnson, K1DMJ, at ARRL Headquarters.

Radio Amateurs Track Signal Interfering on Public Safety Frequency:

Radio amateurs in New Hampshire recently were able to help track down the source of a constant mystery signal on 155.340 MHz -- the "Med 1" frequency for local hospitals. "The offending transmitter was easily received in Dover on a handheld, and was interfering with ambulance-hospital communications," New Hampshire Technical Coordinator Dee Hebert, AB1ST, told New Hampshire Section Manager Pete Stohrer, K1PJS. "George [Whitehead, W1BOF] and I began looking for the transmitter in Dover, and, after a few hours, we had traced it down to Exeter Hospital. George knows the emergency preparedness coordinator at that hospital and contacted him." Communications technicians at the hospital, responding to a report that users were unable to transmit or receive on any frequency, were unaware of the constantly keyed transmitter. They started shutting down systems there until the offending signal disappeared. "We suspect that all of the problems at Exeter Hospital were due to that single transmitter," Hebert said. "It was good to see Amateur Radio and our fox hunt skills put to practical use in the community." -- Thanks to Dee Hebert, AB1ST

It's Not Your Grandfather's Amateur Radio!

Midland High School Electronic and Wireless Communications Club News

High School Chapter

What a difference a year makes. The high school chapter of the Electronics and Wireless Communications Club has taken off beyond my greatest expectations. We had 9 students the first meeting and it has increased at every meeting. We are at 18 students as of the last meeting and they are all engaged. Besides the increased numbers the demographics are encouraging. Of the 18 students, there are 6 girls, 4 freshman, 1 sophomore, 11 juniors and 2 seniors. One of the students is from Bullock Creek. The Mission of the club is to launch scientific payloads on high altitude balloon flights and recovery them. This gives us a wide breadth of electronics and wireless communication technologies to explore and skill sets for the students to develop.

We started the year with the students learning to solder, by building an LED flashlight kit developed by Will Halphen, K8VFO. That was followed up by a second kit, also developed by Will, which was a touch sensor alarm. This was their first example of a remote sensing technology, which is a fundamental concept when doing experiments in near space. The idea is to use project based learned to teach electronics. Or learning with a purpose.

Our first launch is planned for either October 31 or November 7th weather permitting. The students were given the opportunity to pick the roles they wanted to play in the upcoming High Altitude Balloon launch and they are learning the skills they will need to make the launch happen. Some of the roles will be played by the advisors.

In order to perform some of the functions we need up in the balloon at altitude and to be able to communicate with it, we will need to have some onboard computer technology. We have decided that we will use PIC, (Peripheral Interface Controller) microcontrollers for onboard applications since they are low mass, low power consumption and are high on connectivity to the local environment. John McDonough, WB8RCR, has developed a program to teach the students about PICs and programming them. Many of the students already know how to program or want to know how to program, so this is an awesome way for them to use their programming skills to do something real, useful and of value. The students will be developing new electronics modules to launch in the planned spring launch of a high altitude balloon.

We continue to develop our plans for the Satellite Communications platform, which will play well into the high altitude balloon tracking and communications as well. You will be hearing more on that in the coming months.

I honestly couldn't happier with the way the high school club is going this year. I wish to express my sincere thank you 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, Kathy Peters-KD0JHX, Will Halphen-K8VFO, Dennis Caney-WD8BPT, John Henley-AC8QF, John McDonough-WB8RCR, and Jackie Klipa-N8NNA.

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

Northeast Middle School Electronic and Wireless Communications Club News

Northeast Middle School Chapter

The only way to describe this is OMG! Bernadette Wood, the middle school teacher who has partnered with us to create the middle school club has been doing a phenomenal job. She started by advertising in the 7th and 8th grade science classes in the school with the help of her fellow teachers. Then she had two informational meetings over the 7th and 8th grade lunch periods. At those sessions a total of 75 students showed up. Bernadette gave about a 15 minute overview of what we were going to be doing. We were a bit overwhelmed by the number of students present at these meetings.

The following Wednesday, October 7th, we held the first meeting where we planned to go over some ground rules, including safety issues and

have the students start learning how to solder by completing the same LED flashlight kit, designed by K8VFO, that the high school students had done. We had at most 28 kits for the kids to build. We were speculating about how many students would show up. We knew there were a lot of kids in the informational meetings but Bernadette assured us that many of the students came just to get out of the lunchroom. When the start time for the meeting, 3:00 pm, came the students started coming in the room. And they kept coming and coming. When they stopped we had 47 students show up!!! We were not prepared for that. We improvised on the fly. Bernadette ran the business part of the meeting and the students were very well behaved. Will, K8VFO, gave a presentation on soldering and the kit they were going to build. Then we had the kids start working in teams on their flashlight project.

At the second meeting, the number had dropped to 28, in part because of a home football game and marching band, as well as a tailgate party. We continued on with the LED flashlight project but separated the girls from the boys, and had the girls build the 10 tape measure 2 meter yagi kits that Dennis, N8ERF, had put together. The girls that were there finished their flashlights before starting on the yagi's. The boys finished their flashlights and then Will gave them a presentation on voltage, current, and resistance and how to make measurements with a multimeter.

At the third meeting, we had 36 students (14 girls and 22 boys)! We are expecting a few more students to show up after football season is over. The boys continued with their measurements and helped the boys who missed last week finish their work. The girls finished making the yagi antennas and helped the girls who had not finished their flashlights do so. The girls then got to see the presentation on voltage, current and resistance. The boys and girls will only be separated for selected activities.

Next week, weather permitting, we will introduce the students to Fox Hunting and give them a chance to go find a fox or two.

I want to thank Bernadette for her tremendous enthusiasm and leadership with the kids. It is awesome. I also want to thank, Will Halphen, who is the third person in the partnership leading this activity. We have also recruited some new folks to help us out on meeting days. There are three other teachers; Brian Brown (the father of one of our high school kids last year), Sue Trahan and Carmen Kessler, who are helping us out. In addition Walt Kline-WB8WNF, Dave Wallick-N8LBF, Chuck Cribely-WA8LQD, and Jackie Klipa-N8NNA have also volunteered the time to help the students learn and have fun. A humungous THANK YOU for all your support.

The efforts of the Midland Amateur Radio Club are having a significant and direct impact on the lives of 54 youth in Midland County. The ripple effect down the road is going to be tremendous. MARC can be very proud of what the club is doing for our youth.

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

October 2015 Michigan Section News

Greetings to the hams of Michigan:
Here it comes, folks….the weather forecasters are calling for a rain/snow mix in northern Michigan and parts of the UP this weekend. I am going to spend my time thinking forward to spring! Seriously, be sure to take the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful fall colors in our great state!

Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015
We are still in the process of putting pressure on our state senators (Peters and Stabenow) to support S 1685 by becoming a co-sponsor of the bill. Our efforts thus far have not had the desired results. But we are not ones to give up easily and are continuing the fight.

With that said, there have been some bright spots around the state. Now keep in mind that any successes that I am not aware of are not listed here. Here are some great examples of those successes:

The following clubs have taken the initiative to have their members sign letters to our Senators at their club meetings:
Branch County ARC, Holland ARC, Monroe County Communication Association, Muskegon Area Amateur Radio Council, Utica-Shelby Emergency Communications Association, The GRAHamfest crew did yeoman's duty as well by providing letters for those attending the swap. (Thanks K8TB)

Going forward, the SMARS club of Battle Creek will be signing letters at their meeting of the 15th, the St. Joseph County ARC will be doing the same on the 16th. We will have letters available at the Muskegon and Kalamazoo swaps on the 17th and 18th and the USECA swap on the 25th. On Nov 5, the Big Rapids Area ARC will sign letters at their meeting and The L'Anse Creuse club will also have letters available at their hamfest as will the Hazel Park swap in January. The Livonia swap in February is on the list as well.

Your club can (and should) do this also. Letters can be downloaded here:
http://www.k8tb.org/Stabenow.pdf
http://www.k8tb.org/Peters.pdf
In advance of your next meeting, download the two letters and print the appropriate number of copies. At your next meeting, ask that all hams that have not yet sent a letter to their Senators to add their signature, printed name, callsign, address, city, state and zip code to a letter for each Senator. 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.
Please send me a note at wb8r@arrl.org telling me how many letters your club generated and sent to HQ.

New Michigan Section Website
After considerable effort, we are nearing the point of having our new website ready to go. While it is not yet ready for prime time, with work yet to be done, we are moving forward again. Many thanks go to Dave Adams, N9UXU, Gordon Baldwin, W8CT and Jay Nugent, WB8TKL. Stay tuned….

Michigan Net (QMN) Net Manager Changes
At the recent QMN picnic in Burton, MI we sadly allowed our longtime General Manager and Early Net Manager and Newsletter Editor retire. Anne Travis, K8AE poured her heart and soul into the QMN net for many years and now the time is right for her to step down and concentrate her energies on her health priorities. Anne will always hold a warm place in our hearts for her outstanding spirit and willingness to do what it took to continue to make QMN great. Our thoughts and prayers will always be with you.

The following individuals agreed to serve as follows:
General Manager and Newsletter Editor: John, WB9JSR (New)
Early Net Manager: Jerry, W8MSK (New)
Late Net Manager: Stan, K8SB
Treasurer: John, K8LJG
Thanks to everyone who attended the picnic and special thanks to those who volunteered to serve.

Hospitality Acknowledgements
Monroe County Radio Comms Assn Meeting
Adrian Hamfest, Adrian, MI
QMN Picnic, Flint MI
Muskegon Area Amateur Radio Council Meeting
GRAHamfest, Wyoming, MI It was a pleasure to attend your club meeting/hamfest/picnic and I thank you for the hospitality you have shown me. You make it very enjoyable to attend these events.

Hamfests, Meetings and Section Staff Travel Plans
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
Nov 5, 2015 Big Rapids Area ARC Meeting, Big Rapids, 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 (ARPSC) Activities

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. 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. They stand ready to help you.

Until next time,
73, Larry, WB8R

More Technical Topics and Information

Radio Ham helped restore Back To The Future DeLorean

Radio amateur Ara Kourchians N6ARA was among those who helped restore the Back To The Future DeLorean time machine for Universal Studios.

The San Bernardino Microwave Society newsletter reported his interest in the amateur microwave bands when he was a student in 2008.

Ara N6ARA has since flown many amateur radio High Altitude Balloons and in 2013 attended the UKHAS Conference in London to give a presentation on US Ballooning.

By 2015 he completed his bachelors degree in Electrical Engineering at Cal Poly Pomona and has worked as a Software Engineer at JPL.

Ara N6ARA appears in a video about the DeLorean restoration project

Watch "OUT OF TIME: Saving the DeLorean Time Machine" - Trailer 1

http://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/radio-ham-helped-restore-bttf-delorean.497691/

MARC Vital Statistics

MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRING IN OCTOBER 2015

KD8ZKG N8FUZ W8LSS WD8AXR

MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRING IN NOVEMBER 2015

KC8IHB

MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRING IN DECEMBER 2015

NONE

CURRENT ACTIVE CLUB MEMBERSHIP **42**

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 KC0CJC 10/31

BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED IN NOVEMBER 2015

KD8ZKG 11/4 K6VWE 11/13 N8UPP 11/14 KC8GQK 11/19
KD8FQF 11/21 KB8UIH 11/27 N8NVL 11/28

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 Tersa 10/20 KB8LQM and KC8IHB 10/23 NQ8T and Barbara 10/23

ANNIVERSARIES CELEBRATED IN NOVEMBER 2015

N8DHF and KB8QWO 11/17 KB8QWO and N8DHF 11/17
KC8KOC and Jennifer 11/23

Information is from data received 10/13/2015

Any corrections or questions contact Larry, N8CGP

Other DX News

When the Palmyra DXpedition gets under way in January 2016, operators will be using the call sign **K5P**. The Pacific Islands DXpedition Group has been granted permission to activate Cooper Island in the Palmyra Atoll.

Palmyra and Jarvis Islands (KH5) ranks number 9 on ClubLog's DXCC Most Wanted List. "After many months of planning, securing permits, and negotiating contracts with US Fish and Wildlife and the Nature Conservancy, we are quickly approaching the much anticipated DXpedition to Palmyra," said co-leaders Craig Thompson, K9CT, and Lou Dietrich, N2TU, in a recent news release.

A team of 12 operators will operate five stations over a 14 day period, from January 11 through January 26. Visit the Palmyra 2016 website

http://palmyra2016.org/pages/palmyra.html

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