



USECA EXPRESS



Michigan's Largest and Most Active Amateur Radio Club

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC. Volume 14, Number 10, December 1998

➔ ELECTIONS FOR CLUB OFFICERS ➔

Election:

Nominees

The nominations for club officers at the November meeting were as follows:

- President**
Dennis, W8DFG (I)
- Vice President**
Nancy, KB8QMS (I)
- Recording Secretary**
Debbi, KB8YYB (I)
- Treasurer**
Jim, N8OKW (I)
- Membership Secretary**
Mark, W8IR (I)
- Board Member (3 Elected)**
Dave, KC8IAQ (I)
Ann, KG8IF (I)
Marianne, N8TMJ (I)
Betty, N8SIH
Dave, W8VB
Dreux, KB8YYA
Pete, N8ZFA

(I) Incumbent

Absentee Ballots

The voting for club officers will take place at the December General Meeting. If you would like an absentee ballot to cast your vote, please contact Jim, N8OKW or Marianne, N8TMJ at (810) 677-1667. The ballots are to be returned by mail to: USECA Ballot, P.O. Box 1222, Sterling Heights, MI 48311, and must arrive prior to the December 8th meeting.

My Interpretation:

What is "A USECA"?

Nancy, KB8QMS

USECA—(Utica Shelby Emergency Communication Association) is an amateur radio club; a community of people that use radio transmitters and receivers to communicate with other amateur radio operators. Amateur radio is a non-commercial radio communication service whose primary aims are public service. Hams often provide communications for others at public events such as: walkathons, bikeathons, election nets and parades, etc.—also in times of emergency or disaster, or provide radio services to local Civil Defense organizations (ARES or RACES). Hams also aid members of the US military by joining MARS.

The things that hams do with their radios are as diverse as the people themselves. There are so many things, but just a few includes talking to people in foreign countries, or talk to people local on your drive to work. Hams also help other people become hams, they also participate in contests or Field Day events, Hams participate in transmitter hunt games, or maybe build your own direction-finding equipment, build antennas, learn electronics or just have someone to talk to on those sleepless nights.

—Continued on Page 14

DUES DUE!



Christmas Party!

Ann, KG8IF

OUR VERY SPECIAL holiday celebration, the 11th annual USECA Christmas party is coming up soon — December 5 — at Gar Woods Restaurant in Harrison Township on North River Road, on Lake St. Clair. We are returning for the 4th time to Gar Woods, per popular demand. The food has always received good reviews and the staff treats us well. The ambience of the knotty pine interior, fireplaces and beautiful Christmas decorations makes



NO PLANES

for a very pleasant atmosphere to dine with your friends.

This year's menu will be similar to the past, with beef tips and chicken as main courses. Also included is: salad, vegetables, coffee and soft drinks, as well as cake for dessert. Taxes and tips are included in the price of \$15.00 per person—a bargain price for a fabulous evening out.

This is one time when our ham friends are seen wearing something other than blue jeans with holes and ratty T-shirts. "Dressing up" is your choice, but casual is OK too.

—Continued on Page 14

Meeting Location

The December and February meetings will be at the Salvation Army, 55 Church Street, Mt. Clemens.

Different Location!

Next Meeting — December 8 (Elections)

Different Location!

CLUB DIRECTORY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Dennis Gaboury/W8DFG, (810) 465-7126
Vice President	Nancy Carr/KB8QMS, (810) 749-3383
Recording Secretary	Debbi Cokewell/KB8YYB, (810) 263-0227
Treasurer	Jim Mickle/N8OKW, (810) 677-1667
Membership Secretary	Mark Millby/W8IR, (810) 293-3603
Past President	Floyd Soo/W8RO, (248) 391-6660

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Dave Cunningham/KC8IAQ, (810) 791-2720
Ann Manor/KG8IF, (810) 751-3893
Marianne Mickle/N8TMJ, (810) 677-1667

COMMITTEES

ARRL Liaison	Dave/W8VB
Awards Manager	Ken/KF8RG
Door Prizes	Dina/N8YJI
Editor	Joe/K8OEF, (810) 781-0050
Field Day Chair	Walt/WB8E, (810) 777-2954
Health & Welfare	Marianne/N8TMJ, (810) 677-1667
Historians	Jerry/K8CFY & Ann/KG8IF
Mailers/Sorters	Ann/KG8IF; Phil/W8IC; & Crew
Net Manager	Dave/KC8IAQ, (810) 791-2720
Photographer	Richard/K8QLM
Program Director	Nancy/KB8QMS
Public Relations Officer	Ken/KF8RG
Refreshments	Phil/W8IC & Marianne/N8TMJ
Repeater Trustee	Chuck/WA8Z
Swap & Shop	Debbi/KB8YYB, (810) 263-0227
Technical Director	Doug/N8KND, (810) 558-7729
Technicians	K8FT; WA8GQL; KC8IAQ; WY8M; N8MIV; KB8PEV; N8SA; K8ZEC
Trash-For-Cash	Gerald/KC8FYQ (248) 435-5112

CONTROL OPERATORS

Dennis/W8DFG	Nancy/KB8QMS	Gulliver/WA8VIJ
Doug/K8DK	Floyd/W8RO	Chuck/WA8Z
Earl/N8OEX	Bill/N8SA	

PROGRAMMERS

Doug/N8KND	Bill/N8SA	Chuck/WA8Z
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VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS

AA8CY	AA8HF	WY8M	KG8QT	N8SA
WB8E	KG8IE	KA8NDY	KF8RG	W8VB
K8EN	WX3L	N8OEF	W8RO	K8W1

SILENT KEYS

Len Czapiewski/K8DHH	Rick Parady/KB8KLW
Art Sheff/WD8EGV	John Moore/KA8KTV
Joe Lucido/NU8F	John Palmer/WD8LBH
Charles Smith/N8FWF	John Pizzuti/WB8NHT
Clarence Ringo/W8HQO	Harry Young/W8VRW
Joe Steel/KA8IZM	Velma Ragon/N8YVC

CLUB HOTLINE: (810) 268-6730

f=Founder	c=Charter	h=Hon. Charter
N8AWV <i>h</i>	N8HCT <i>fc</i>	WB8OSF <i>h</i>
KA8BDG <i>c</i>	KA8IZM <i>fc</i> SK	K8QLM <i>fc</i>
N8BK <i>h</i>	KA8KTV <i>fc</i> SK	WB8QNI <i>c</i>
N8FDN <i>c</i>	G. Manquardt <i>h</i>	KA8VYV <i>h</i>
N8FNO <i>fc</i>	WD8MFN <i>fc</i>	WA8VZZ <i>c</i>
J. Haubner <i>c</i>	WD8NHT <i>fc</i>	

The Editor is:

Still Going

Joe, K8OEF

Our year is winding down! Our Swap is over! The Christmas party is next! Elections will soon be behind us! One more thing for you to do this year (if you haven't already done so)—pay your dues. Your dues and our Swap generates the revenue to continue providing you with all the benefits of belonging to Michigan's Largest and Most Active Amateur Radio Club!

Thanks to Chris, W8ZNT for all his efforts and hard work to be our Swap Chairperson. Chris now hands over the duties to Debbi, KB8YYB who will "run the show" for us in 1999. Good Luck Debbi!

Last month the *Express* "bulged" to the max—two articles had to be delayed for this edition. That's a nice position to be in; those kinds of problems are a pleasantry!

Our General Meetings for December and February will NOT be at the usual location due to a conflict of schedules with the school—the meetings will be at the Salvation Army in Mt. Clemens.

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Ken's Kozy Korner December Notes

Ken, KF8RG

Congratulations to USECA's latest award winners: KB8TAS (50 pts. HF), KC8CPT (50 pts. VHF), N8OEF (50 pts. VHF), KC8GMT (100 pts. VHF), and KG8YX (100 pts. VHF). Your continued enthusiasm for USECA helps keep vitality in our nets and attract new members.

Only a few of our most die-hard campers made it to USECA's final 1998 campout in Algonac over the Halloween weekend. It was a *terrific* wrap-up to a very good year of USECA camping activities mostly orchestrated by Dina (N8YJI), our *very* able camping director (*Keep up the great job!*). Although the air was crisp with the chill of late fall, the park was much less crowded than usual and our views of passing freighters and tugs were unobstructed. A large, well fed fire kept us all mostly toasty warm (and smoked) throughout the weekend. (When the supply ran short Sunday night, Denise (KC8IPF) and Ann (KG8IF) scavenged nearby campsites for our last few hours worth of fuel.) Radio, as at *any* USECA activity, was in evidence with antennas strung in the trees, on the cars, and on the ground. Richard (KB8WTH) was cruisin' the bands and workin' DX from a picnic table beside his motorhome on an ICOM 706 and ground-mounted Outbacker antenna while Delphine (KC8JSH) brewed hot cider and tea. Jerry (KB8TAS) fiddled with 10 meters in his trailer while Debbie (KB8YB) regaled the rest of us with sailing stories. Paul (AA8OZ) had the largest antenna up, a 40 meter ladderline-fed dipole, tunable on most bands with RF supplied courtesy of his Yaesu FT900 and homebrew tuner.

As many of you already know, I am giving up the job of Awards Manager as of January 1999. I've been hoping to put more time into other endeavors and Delphine (KC8JSH) has graciously offered to take over and carry us into the next millennium. She is well equipped, computer-wise, to take the awards to new heights of artistry and originality (and note, she's got E-Mail capability!). I'm sure all our NCO's will be as prompt getting net logs to Delphine as you've been with me. I will make *final* 1998 award presentations at our January meeting and name the 1998 "Top Ops," HF and VHF. The final 1998 Net Point count will be in February 1999's *Express*, as in the past, and will probably include a recap of some of the last few years' "Top Twenty" lists. **NCO's: PLEASE BE SURE TO GET ANY AND ALL 1998 NET LOGS TO ME BEFORE JANUARY 7th!** Any received later will not be tallied in 1998's database.

Arguments:

For Not Knowing Code and Rebuttals

(With excerpts from November, *World Radio*)

1. "Code is obsolete..."
"...the Army has lots of trucks but still teaches marching,
The Air Force still issues side arms to pilots even though it has the world's best planes and bombs." (WR)
"...the Navy still uses signal flags and light semaphores..." (KF8RG)
2. "I tried to learn code for 15 years..."
"...even learning only one letter a month in your spare moments, it would take less than three years to learn the Morse Code."
(WR-paraphrased)
3. "Nobody uses code anymore, even the Navy and Coast Guard stopped using it."
"...nor do they use HF much anymore, where code punches through the noise. The Navy and CG now rely heavily on noise-free encrypted satellite VHF/UHF multi-redundant systems today. (BTW, airports still use code beacons)" (KF8RG)
4. "I can't find the time... I'm just too busy..."
"...So what's your gripe! If you're *that* busy, and have *that* little free time, you won't have time to put up antennas, hook up a radio, or get on HF anyway! So why worry?" (WR-paraphrased)
5. "...My hearing just ain't what it used to be, I can't hear the morse code tones..."
"...most modern radios let you vary the tone of received and transmitted CW and FCC Volunteer Examiners will be glad to accommodate your disability at an exam session. Virtually **ALL** of the code tutor software available today is tone-variable" (KF8RG)
6. "...but I hear they're gonna' do away with code...why bother?"
"...If you're content to wait, don't complain if it's a **LONG** wait. The FCC is a dinosaur that moves very slowly and the international treaty that requires 5 wpm Code can only be modified by consensus of more than 40 FCC-like bureaucracies." (KF8RG)
7. "...but Code is SO old fashioned..."
"...it's only a few years older than AM, still very popular on CB, and requires *far less* bandwidth (500Hz vs 12kHz AM, 2.5kHz SSB). No, it ain't new, but it *is* a very *basic* form of communication and it does use our
—Continued on Page 13

Dues!

Hey you! Yeah, **YOU!** Got your dues paid? I'll bet not. Remember, your dues are **LATE** after December 31st, 1998. **PLEASE, PLEASE,** renew your membership before then. (bring the cash to December's meeting, or mail it to our Membership Secretary or to USECA's P.O. Box before then or—**DO IT NOW, BEFORE YOU FORGET!** While you're at it, give a copy of our membership form [application] to a friend and invite them to join as well. Forms are available in each and every *Express*.

—Submitted by Ken, KF8RG

Vote!

Come to the December meeting and vote for USECA's 1999 leadership. Yep! These will be the officers who will lead us into the next millennium! Look over the candidates closely—vote for those you've **seen** actively and **consistently** involved in club affairs. *This ain't no popularity contest!* This is **YOUR** club—be there to **ENSURE** it's future by taking an **ACTIVE** role in its democratic process.

If you cannot be present for the vote at the meeting; be sure to get a signed and dated proxy [absentee] ballot to [from] Marianne (N8TMJ) before the night of the meeting. [See Page 1—Ed.]

—Submitted by Ken, KF8RG

ARRL Increase:

QSL Service Fees

Starting January 1, 1999, the ARRL outgoing *members-only* QSL service will increase fees from \$4 to \$6 a pound. ARRL Services Manager, K5FUV, has stated that the rate increase was necessary to absorb the effects of a proposed postal rate increase and to bring the money-losing service a bit closer to break-even status. The rate for 10 cards will remain at \$1.

The ARRL has subsidized the service from its inception. Mailing costs today run about \$9 a pound, leaving the service still operating in the red, even with the rate increase coming in January. With DX getting more common on the bands, now might be a good time to get your money's worth by joining the ARRL and making use of the Outgoing Bureau!

—Submitted by Ken, KF8RG

1998-1999; QRP-L—Fox Hunt

Version 3.01

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

The Fox and Hound make a two-way QRP contact exchanging calls, RST, QTH, Name, QRP-L Number and/or RF output power.

DEFINITIONS

- QRP = 5 watts or less RF output from the transmitter.
- QRO = any power greater than 5 watts.
- QTH = State, Province, or Country if outside US/Can.
- Fox = the station everyone tries to work. Also known as foxii, the fox, the wily one, the bushy tailed SOB, etc.
- Hound = any station trying to work the fox. Also known as the hound, hunter, hunters, the skunked, the pile-up.
- W8KC = Paul Valko, runs the foxhunt. Also known as, *paul* — The collector of TenTecs and other fine plastics, Rule Maker, Rule Definer, Peace Keeper, Butt Kicker, etc.
- Split = Classic DX-style operation on two distinctly different frequencies.

RULES

- 1.0 OBJECTIVE - The objective is to HAVE FUN.
- 1.1 GENERAL FOX GUIDELINES
 - 1.12 Fox try to complete as many two-way, CW, QRP, QSOs - as possible, in a 2 hour long time period.
 - 1.13 Fox must post PRIOR to operation day with details (rig, ant, freq) regarding their operation.
 - 1.14 Fox will operate within +/- 10Khz of 7.040 MHz but should make an effort to AVOID operating directly on 7.040.
 - 1.141 Fox will call CQ FOX, CQ FOXHUNT, etc.
 - 1.15 Fox will be allowed to QSY to avoid QRM.
 - 1.16 Fox WILL NOT operate "split."
- 1.2 GENERAL HOUND GUILLELINES
 - 1.21 Hounds ONLY work the Fox.
 - 1.211 Hounds ONLY ANSWER the FOX CQ - Hounds DO NOT call CQ FOX.
 - 1.22 Hounds must NOT QRM the Fox Frequency after the QSO.
 - 1.23 Hounds, work as many Foxii as possible over the 22 weeks of the Foxhunt.
- 1.3 Hound MUST be QRP if giving a qrp-I number.

2.0 SCORING SYSTEM

- 2.1 One point will be awarded for each successful QSO.
- 2.31 Instructions to get your QRP-L Number are at the bottom of this message.
- 2.4 Maximum points for any one QSO is 3 points, allows incentive for Novice/Tech or Special Event Foxii.

2.5 EXCHANGE

- 2.51 A successful QSO MUST exchange as a minimum Callsigns, RST, QTH, Name, QRP-L number and/or RF output power.
- 2.52 Any other information exchanged (rigs, ant, etc.) is at the operator's discretion but is superfluous.
- 2.521 Operators are welcome to include superfluous detail in the posted report but the FOX LOG must be posted as detailed in rule 3.2.

3.0 REPORTING SYSTEM

- 3.1 Foxii LOGS MUST be posted to QRP-L with a copy also sent to: prvalko@oakland.edu
- 3.11 Posts to QRP-L Regarding the Foxhunt should begin with "FOX:" to enable filters to do their magic.
- 3.2 The Foxii log shall have the following layout:

TIME	STATION	FOX	HOUND	HOUND
	HOUND	HOUND	HOUND	

GMT L#	WORKED POWER	RST	RST	QTH	NAME	QRP-L
	as an example...					
0200	w8kc	559	559	mi	Paul	59 2w
0201	wq9rp	579	579	wi	Hank	.9w
0202	n8iin	599	599	mi	Roy	100w
						TOTAL 3 POINTS

- 3.3 The Fox is responsible and is to be honorable in reporting scores.
- 3.31 All information exchanged must be done during the QSO, electronic "fills" via email are not permitted.
- 3.4 Hounds are encouraged to report both successful AND failed hunts to QRP-L (I do not need a Hound Log). This is also a propagation study, you know.
- 4.0 SPECIAL FOX EVENTS
 - 4.1 A Special Event Fox may pop up once or twice to keep hunters on their toes. Stay tuned to QRP-L for these announcements.
 - 4.2 A Novice Foxhunt will begin sometime in November.
 - 4.5 There is a "Bye Date" where no fox is scheduled.
 - 4.6 No Foxhunt is planned during Straight Key Night.
 - 4.7 Any "sub-contest" such as "team competition" is the sole responsibility of the person who decides to run one.
 - 4.71 Sub-contests must in no way interfere with the rules and smooth operation of the AUTHORIZED QRP-L FOXHUNT.

1998/1999 FOX SCHEDULE VERSION 1.00

WEEK	GMT DATE	FOX OP	FOX QTH	START TIME(Z)	GMT DATE	FOX OP	FOX QTH	START TIME(Z)
1	10/7	AB5UA	OK	0200	10/9	WQ8RPMI	0100	
2	10/14	WA8GHZ	TX	0100	10/16	W8RU	MI	0200
3	10/21	KV2X	NY	0200	10/23	K8CV	MI	0200
4	10/28	N2TO	NY	0100	10/30	KU7Y	NV	0100
5	11/4	AB5UA	OK	0200	11/6	N1FN	CO	0300
6	11/11	K1MG	CA	0200	11/13	WA8GHZ	TX	0200
7	11/18	AB0GO	CO	0200	11/20	K8CV	MI	0200
8	11/25	W5TFB	TX	0200	11/27	KB7MBI	WA	0200
9	12/2	N0UR	MN	0100	12/4	WS4S	TN	0300
10	12/9	N7CQR	OR	0200	12/11	N2TO	NY	0200
11	12/16	K5ZTY	TX	0200	12/18	N2SMH	NJ	0100
12	12/23	WQ8RPMI	0100		12/25	KB7MBI	WA	0200
13	12/30	VE7DXJ	BC	0200	1/1/99	*** SKN ***		
14	1/6	** BYE DATE **			1/8	VE7DXJ	BC	0300
15	1/13	K0EVZ	ND	0200	1/15	N7CQR	OR	0300
16	1/20	N2SMH	NJ	0100	1/22	W8RU	MI	0200
17	1/27	N0UR	MN	0100	1/29	WS4S	TN	0300
18	2/3	W5TFB	TX	0200	2/5	K1MG	CA	0100
19	2/10	KV2X	NY	0200	2/12	AB0GO	CO	0200
20	2/17	K0EVZ	ND	0200	2/19	VE7CQK	BC	0100
21	2/24	KU7Y	NV	0100	2/26	N1FN	CO	0300
22	3/3	VE7CQK	BC	0100	3/5	K5ZTY	TX	0200

FOX EMAIL ADDRESSES

- Dave Ek <ekdave@earthlink.net>
- Clifton W Sikes <ab5uacw@juno.com>
- "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
- "Michael A. Gipe" <mgipe@reliablemeters.com>
- k5zty@juno.com
- Walt Amos <waltk8cv@ameritech.net>
- Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@contesting.com>
- ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
- Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
- Thomas Jennings
- <jennings@eng14.rochny.uspra.abb.com>

Results:

Field Day '98

Top 10 Scores:

Call Sign	Score	Class
N1FD	26,274	26A
W3AO	19,366	4A
W2GD	18,912	4A
W4IY	18,834	9A
KK8M	18,650	19A Battery
K8XX	15,322	6A
K4BFT	13,830	5A
W4DW	13,802	8A
W4KX	13,424	3A
W5NC	13,036	2A

[The above was received from a very reliable source—Ed.]



Belated:

Happy Thanksgiving!

Most people eat turkey at Thanksgiving because it is traditional. The turkey is a wild bird native to America that traveled to Europe, got domesticated and returned a plumper, more tender fowl.



Benjamin Franklin thought the turkey should be the national bird because it was an original native and a kinder, gentler bird compared to the bald eagle which he described as a "bird of bad moral character."

But perhaps others thought one should not eat the national bird. And now that the bald eagle is a protected species, it will not be seen gracing anyone's Thanksgiving table. That honor is reserved for the turkey, "a more respectable bird," Franklin said.

—Internet



Dayton '99

May 14, 15 and 16, 1999
Are You Ready?

Inside The Express

Joe, K8OEF

INSIDE EVERY edition of the Express, you will find a special page—it contains:

- ◆ Club Application
- ◆ Club Activities
- ◆ Hotline Number
- ◆ Web Page Address
- ◆ Net Ops Schedules
- ◆ Swap Dates
- ◆ Local Area Nets

Note: All of the above can be found on a single page. Save this page, cut it in half, give the application to a prospective member and what you will have is all the current information of our club—all on the same page!



QRP-L—Continued From Page 4

Paul Erickson <paule@sfu.ca>, "C. Leung" <cleung@cln.etc.bc.ca>, Jack Bryant <Jack.Bryant@math.tamu.edu>, Ron Majewski <majewski@erim-int.com>, JFD / WA8GHZ /5 <jdougher@wt.net>, Conard Murray <ws4s@infoave.net>

OBTAINING A QRP-L MEMBER NUMBER Use this command to obtain a QRP-L member number.

RUN QRP-L X GETNR callsign example: RUN QRP-L X GETNR W8KC where "callsign" is your callsign. Send this in the body of a message to LISTSERV@LEHIGH.EDU. Use the word NONE if you don't yet have a callsign. The list of assigned member numbers can be had via the command, also to LISTSERV@LEHIGH.EDU: GET QRP-L/MISC MEMBER_NUMBERS.TXT

That's it for now gang! Unleash the hounds!

73! Paul, W8KC



USECA CHRISTMAS PARTY



Saturday December 5, 1998

6:30 P.M. • Cocktails (cash bar)
M. • Buffet Dinner

\$15.00  Cash or Check (payable to USECA)
See Ann, KG8IF

WHITE ELEPHANT (BRING ONE • GET ONE)

FAMILY AND FRIENDS WELCOME!

Gar Wood's Bayview Lodge
41620 Conger Bay Drive
Harrison Township



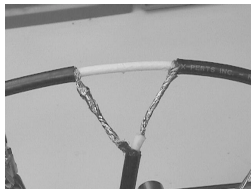
Menu

BEEF TIPS & NOODLES
CHICKEN
VEGETABLE SALAD
COFFEE & SOFT DRINKS
"OFFICIAL" USECA CAKE
TAX & GRATUITIES INCLUDED

The Bazooka Antenna

Ron, KC8DPO

Are you looking for a good HF antenna design? This is not a new antenna, but it is a



good antenna. I have experimented with many of these. The original design calls for RG-58U, but I like to use RG-8X. This RG-8X must have a velocity factor of .78.

It is available at Michigan Radio, or other amateur outlets.

These formulas I am giving can be used to calculate how to build this antenna for any HF amateur band (160-10 meters). The antenna consists of a half wavelength section of coax line with the sheath opened at the center and the feed line attached to the open ends of the sheath. The outside conductor of the coax acts as a half wave dipole, in combination with the open wire end sections of the antenna.

The inside sections, which do not radiate, are quarter wave shorted

stubs, which present a very high resistive impedance to the feed point at resonance. At frequencies off resonance the stub reactance changes in such a way as to tend to cancel the antenna reactance, thus increasing its bandwidth.

Also care should be taken to "waterproof" the antenna. Some type of sealer should be used anywhere the coax sheath has been compromised. The idea is to seal any areas where moisture might enter.

Refer to Figure 1 for drawing details.

3.5 MHz	7.0 MHz	14 MHz	18 MHz	21 MHz	28 MHz
A=133'6"	A=67'	A=33'6"	A=26'	A=22'3"	A=16'9"
B=54'	B=27'6"	B=13'9"	B=10'7"	B=9'1"	B=6'10"
C1-C2=39'6"	C1-C2=20'	C1C2=10'	C1-C2=6'6"	C1-C2=7'6"	C1-C2=4'6"

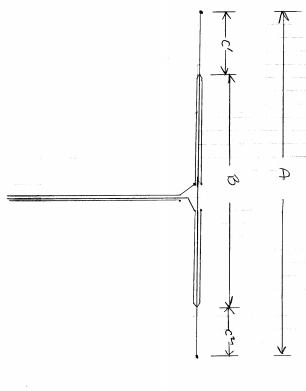
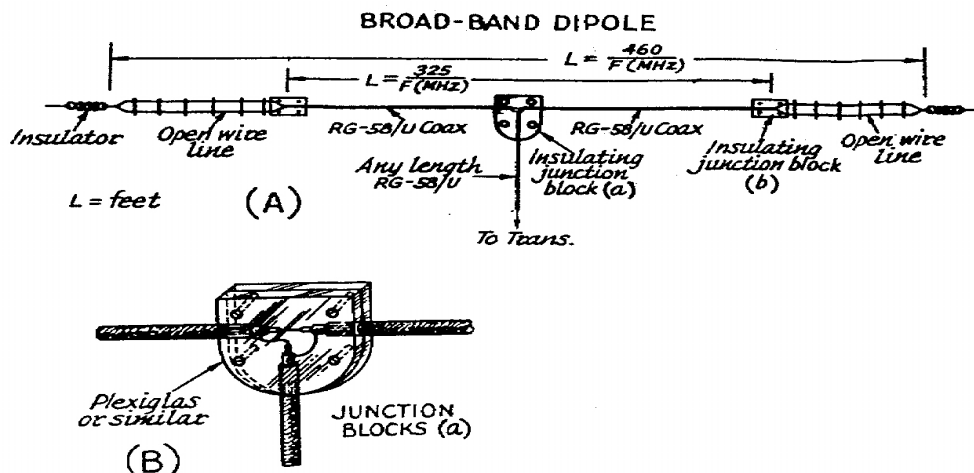


Figure 1



1998 Net Point System

- ✓1) HF CW NCO = 4 points, HF SSB/VHF NCO = 3 points, HF CW/SSB check-in = 2 points, VHF check-in = 1 point. HF < 30 MHz, VHF > 30 MHz. (NOTE: Check-ins *should* do so personally, proxy check-ins are acceptable *only* for members on club business. "In & Out" check-ins, though allowed, are discouraged.)
- ✓2) Awards are earned for 50 points and multiples thereof; plaques for the highest annual HF and VHF scores. Awards are meant to encourage **participation** and can be earned by any licensed amateur.
- ✓3) Net logs must be readable and include the CALLS and NAMES of check-ins, as well as NCO, DATE, and MODE.
- ✓4) NCO's: forward net logs to the Awards Manager within 30 days; logs received later will not earn the bonus points normally awarded a NCO. MAIL logs to: 53762 Kristin Ct., Shelby Twp., MI 48316, c/o KF8RG, via packet to KF8RG-1 (145.03 MHz) or KF8RG @ DETIP BBS (144.93) or catch me on the air to pass your list.
- ✓5) If *you* notice any errors in the database, wrong or changed call signs, misspelled names, etc., let Ken know ASAP.

Ain't No Stoppin' Us Now . . . We're On The Move!

Listening To The World

Story by Jim Sheeler

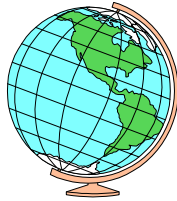
UNDERNEATH THE towering antennas that sprout from his garage, below the 1,500 feet of wire buried in his backyard, Yardley Beers sits in his basement, and switches on his microphone.

"Calling CQ, calling CQ, is this frequency in use? Is this frequency in use?" the 85-year-old says in a warbling voice. "WOJF, Boulder Colorado. Calling CQ CQ CQ."

Near Beers' fingers sits a notebook full of codes representing dozens of countries: "Latvia, Slovenia, Denmark, Philippines, Finland, Columbia, Tahiti, Portugal, Italy, Ukraine, Reunion Island..."

"WOJF—W zero Japan Florida," Beers says over the radio in his Chautauqua-area home. "W zero Juliet Foxtrot standing by. Calling CQ. Calling CQ. Calling CQ. Calling CQ."

When he stops speaking, he is met by low static echo, the kind used as background noise in submarine movies.



"Calling CQ" is the ham radio operator's way of asking if anyone is listening.

"How many hundreds of times have I heard him say that, with no answer," says Dorothy Beers, who is standing near her husband in the workshop/ office/hobby room affectionately dubbed the "radio shack."

"CQ, CQ, CQ, CQ," Mr. Beers continues. "You know, he has hearing aids, and sometimes has a lot of trouble hearing," the 81-year-old says of her husband. "But he never has trouble hearing that radio."

Morse buff
"Can I tell that story?" says Mrs. Beers, turning toward her husband.

She says this as he reaches the end of World War II— about one-third of the way through his life story. He had already discussed his love of electric trains as a youngster, and how he believed that stimulated his interest in electricity. He had talked about his first radio, a crystal set he built in part with an old oatmeal box, when he was 9 years old, and about receiving his amateur radio license in 1930.

He had talked about meeting Einstein, and working on radar systems at the Radiation Laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology—radar systems designed to automatically aim anti-aircraft guns during the war.

The "Rad Lab" at MIT was where he met his wife. She was making tubes for the radar systems. He was making the

amplifiers. One couldn't work without the other.

Which brings his story to the end of World War II, when amateur ("ham") radio operators were finally allowed back on the air, after being banned—for security reasons—from using their equipment.

"Oh, I'd better not tell that story," Mrs. Beers says, reconsidering.

"Go ahead," Mr. Beers says, leaning forward, smiling wryly.

"It was the very first day that (amateur radio) operators were allowed on the air after the War," she says.

"Oh, this is terrible," she apologizes. "Am I telling the story right?"

"Yes, go on," Mr. Beers says. His smile takes up a good portion of his face.

"So it was very hot, and I woke up that morning," she continues. "There was a power supply under the bed, and antennas everywhere."

"There was Yardley doing the Morse Code next to the bed."

"He had his earphones on—and nothing else!"

Hapsburgs to hams

In Mr. Beers' basement radio shack sits a box filled with radios he's created out of sardine cans. Using the sardine radios, he's made contact with both coasts, just for fun. Nearby sits an old black lunchbox with a dial on the outside. Inside is a hidden radio—the same kind Beers used to sneak his hobby past strict school rules more than half a century ago. Stacked on file cabinets are hefty World War II-era radios with dials the size of saucers.

"Of course, in the old days," he says, "people made more stuff than they do now."

By using his array of antennas and radios, Beers makes daily contact with other ham radio operators around the world, many of them huddled in identical radio shacks.

"This is a contact with Anton Hapsburg, the Archduke of Austria," he says, pointing to a postcard in his scrapbook. "That was before World War II; I don't think he's around anymore. This is the card for Herbert Hoover Jr., the son of the president..."

At the Beers home, dinner is often served at odd hours, depending on the airwaves.

"Lately, the Russians have been coming in around 9 p.m.," he says.

Over the past 68 years, Beers has made contact with 305 countries (by amateur radio standards Alaska, Hawaii, and some islands are treated as different countries.)

He's stayed with ham-operating friends in the Hebrides islands, and helped an amateur radio operator with an archeologi-

cal dig on the Isle of Man. He worked in Australia on a Fulbright scholarship before ending his tenure as a physics professor at New York University from 1946-1961.

WOJF has operated from Boulder since 1961, when Beers took a job at the National Bureau of Standards, and taught classes at the University of Colorado as a visiting lecturer. While at the agency, he oversaw the division which maintained the atomic clock, and the construction of the radio stations which broadcast time around the world.

Those stations, located in Fort Collins, are still used as a basis of precise time measurement around the world. He returned to his old workplace (now the National Institute of Standards and Technology) last month to receive a lifetime achievement award

from the Boulder Amateur Radio Club, where he still acts as mentor to "hams" from across the county.

Mr. Beers wears a digital watch. Though he sometimes transmits his radio signals using his voice, he still prefers Morse Code. Sometimes, he just listens. "I still listen practically every day," he says.

"And at night," Mrs. Beers adds. "He says he can't sleep. He gets up in the middle of the night. I know he knows there's something good on."

"I get up," he says, smiling, "even when there's something not so good on."

Piano wires.

As he sits at his piano, Mr. Beers stares intently at the sheet music he wrote a few years ago.

He's only recently taken up the piano, beginning with classical music, and moving into blues and jazz. With piano, there are no knobs to turn, no equations to be solved. Mr. Beers admits he's not very good.

The piece he practices each day is called "Night-Piece" and is based on the famous Wordsworth poem. Mr. Beers scored the piece himself, after spending time in the Lake District in Great Britain, hiking with a poetry professor and Wordsworth expert.

"The story is that a walker or hiker is walking in the moonlight at night," he says after playing the piece. "Originally, the sky is dull, and the clouds are hiding the moon, and suddenly the clouds evaporate and there's a beautiful full moon, and then the clouds come in again."

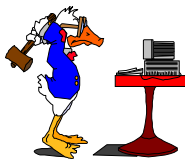
The listener can tell when the moon is shrouded. That's the part he plays in the minor key.

Beers has made contact with 305 countries . . .

—Continued on Page 14

E-Mail Directory

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 K8CFY, Jerry: irish12@juno.com
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 KE8UM, Murray: ke8um@flash.net
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 N8VOH, Kathy: vev@mich.com
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 KB8WBV, Ken: kb8wbv@voyager.net
 KB8WCM, Steve: stevenmessina@juno.com
 KG8WG, Lee: badboy400@aol.com
 KB8WVW, Chris: cmaresco@bignet.net
 KB8YLB, Ed: kb8ylb@flash.net
 KG8YX, Doc: kg8yxdoc@tir.com
 KB8YYA, Dreux: djac237118@aol.com
 KB8YYB, Debbi: cuer@juno.com
 W8ZNT, Chris: w8znt@yahoo.com



"YOU GOT MAIL!"

★New/change from previous.

ITALICS—Recent "Undeliverables."

If you are a club member and would like your address published (or changed) in the *Express*, send it via e-mail to K8OEF.

Amazing!

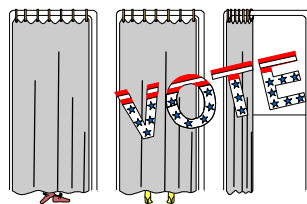
1. First of all, pick the number of days a week that you would like to go out (or eat pizza, whatever).
2. Multiply this number by 2.
3. Add 5.
4. Multiply it by 50.
5. If you have already had your birthday this year, add 1748. If you haven't, add 1747.
6. Last step: Subtract the four digit year that you were born.

—Submitted by Marianne, N8TMJ

[Results on Page 13]

Club Officers Elections

Elections will take place at the General Meeting on December 8th.



Read This:

FINISHED FILES ARE THE RESULT OF YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC STUDY COMBINED WITH THE EXPERIENCE OF YEARS.

Now, go back and count the number of "F's" in the sentence.

[See Page 13]

Leave A Gap!

Just The Facts!

These 'facts' are unverified.

A duck's quack doesn't echo, and no one knows why.

In the 1940s, the FCC assigned television's Channel 1 to mobile services (two-way radios in taxicabs, for instance) but did not re-number the other channel assignments. That is why your TV set has channels 2 and up, but no channel 1.

The "save" icon on Microsoft Word shows a floppy disk, with the shutter on backwards.

The combination "ough" can be pronounced in nine different ways. The following sentence contains them all: "A rough-coated, dough-faced, thoughtful ploughman strode through the streets of Scarborough; after falling into a slough, he coughed and hiccoughed."

The verb "cleave" is the only English word with two synonyms which are antonyms of each other: adhere and separate.

The only 15-letter word that can be spelled without repeating a letter is uncopy-rihtable.

Facetious and abstemious contain all the vowels in the correct order, as does arsenious, meaning, "containing arsenic."

Emus and kangaroos cannot walk backwards, and are on the Australian coat of arms for that reason.

Cats have over one hundred vocal sounds, while dogs only have about ten.

The word "Checkmate" in chess comes from the Persian phrase "Shah Mat," which means, "the king is dead".

Pinocchio is Italian for "pine head."

Camel's milk does not curdle.

In every episode of Seinfeld there is a Superman somewhere.

An animal epidemic is called an epizootic.

Murphy's Oil Soap is the chemical most commonly used to clean elephants.

The United States has never lost a war in which mules were used.

Blueberry Jelly Bellies were created especially for Ronald Reagan.

All porcupines float in water.

Hang On Sloopy is the official rock song of Ohio.

Did you know that there are coffee flavored PEZ?

Lorne Greene had one of his nipples bitten off by an alligator while he was host of "Lorne Greene's Wild Kingdom."

Cat's urine glows under a blacklight.

If you bring a raccoon's head to the Hennessey, New Hampshire town hall, you are entitled to receive \$.10 from the town.

The reason firehouses have circular stairways is from the days of yore when the engines were pulled by horses. The horses were stabled on the ground floor and figured out how to walk up straight staircases.

Non-dairy creamer is flammable.

The airplane Buddy Holly died in was the "American Pie." (Thus the name of the Don McLean song.)

Texas is also the only state that is allowed to fly its state flag at the same height as the U.S. flag.

The only nation whose name begins with an "A", but doesn't end in an "A" is Afghanistan.

Pamela Anderson Lee is Canada's Centennial Baby, being the first baby born on the centennial anniversary of Canada's independence.

When opossums are playing 'possum, they are not "playing." They actually pass out from sheer terror.

The Main Library at Indiana University sinks over an inch every year because when it was built, engineers failed to take into account the weight of all the books that would occupy the building.

—Submitted by Ann, KG8IF

Real Stories(?)

1st Person: "Do you know anything about this fax machine?"

2nd Person: "A little. What's wrong?"

1st Person: "Well, I sent a fax, and the recipient called back to say all she received was a cover-sheet and a blank page. I tried it again, and the same thing happened."

2nd Person: "How did you load the sheet?"

1st Person: "It's a pretty sensitive memo, and I didn't want anyone else to read it by accident, so I folded it so only the recipient would open it and read it."

I recently saw a distraught young lady weeping beside her car. "Do you need some help?" I asked. She replied, "I knew I should have replaced the battery in this remote door unlocked. Now I can't get into my car. Do you think they (pointing to a distant convenience store) would have a battery for this?" "Hmmm, I dunno. Do you have an alarm, too?" I asked. "No, just this remote 'thingy,'" she answered, handing it and the car keys to me. As I took the key

and manually unlocked the door, I replied, "Why don't you drive over there and check about the batteries—it's a long walk."

Tech Support: "What does the screen say now."

Person: "It says, 'Hit ENTER when ready.'"

Tech Support: "Well?"

Person: "How do I know when it's ready?"

My friend called his car insurance company to tell them to change his address from Texas to Vermont. The woman who took the call asked where Vermont was. As he tried to explain, she interrupted and said, "Look, I'm not stupid or anything, but what state is it in?"

Several years ago we had an intern who was none too swift. One day he was typing and turned to a secretary and said, "I'm almost out of typing paper. What do I do?" "Just use copier machine paper," she told him. With that, the intern took his last remaining blank piece of paper, put it on the

photocopier and proceeded to make five blank copies.

I was working the help desk. One day one of the computer operators called me and asked if anything "bad" would happen if she dropped coins into the openings of her PC. I asked her if this was something she was thinking of doing. She said, "never mind" and hung up. So I got out my trusty tool kit and paid her a visit. I opened her CPU case and sure enough, there was 40 cents.

One of our servers crashed. I was watching our new system administrator trying to restore it. He inserted a CD and needed to type a path name to a directory named "i386." He started to type it and paused, asking me, "Where's the key for that line thing?" I asked what he was talking about, and he said, "You know, that one that looks like an upside-down exclamation mark." I replied, "You mean the letter 'i'?" and he said, "Yeah, that's it!"

Field Day Kitchen '99

Delphine, KC8JSH

Now that Goblins and Pumpkins are history, we can look forward to the "Holiday Season". It seems that it is too early but, calendars do not lie.

With the onset of the "Happiest time of the year" your Field Day '99 chairpersons have decided to put plans on hold and enjoy the Season.

But, of course, we will provide a recipe. This is one from my personal file. It has proven to be one of our dinner guests favorites. It is not intended to be a diet dish. Enjoy!

ZUCCHINI PIE

3 CUPS OF SLICED ZUCCHINI
 1 LARGE SWEET ONION - CHOPPED
 4 EGGS - SLIGHTLY BEATEN
 1 CUP BISQUICK
 1 CUP VEGETABLE OIL
 1/2 TBL. FINELY CHOPPED PARSLEY
 1 CUP GRATED PARMESAN CHEESE
 1/2 TSP. SALT
 1/8 T. PEPPER



COMBINE ALL INGREDIENTS—GREASE 9 INCH PIE PLATE—
 BAKE 30 MINUTES IN 375 DEGREE OVEN.

[To The Tune of the Beverly Hillbillies]

[See Article "A USECA"—Page 1]

The Ballad of USECA

Nancy, KB8QMS

Come lis'en to our story 'bout a fine business club
 The friendliest people make up our family hub.
 Because one day, we was learnin' those exams
 Up through the tests came some happenin' hams.
 Amateurs that is, tech lites, extras too!



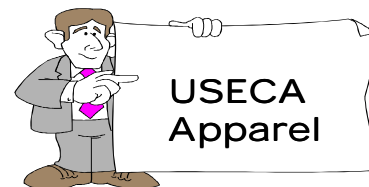
Well, next thing ya' know, we are known everywhere
 Other hams said "hey lets join over there" Said
 Ol' USECA is the place we oughta be, so they
 Loaded up the car, and drove to Donald B.
 Bemis that is, Meetin' place, Ham friends!

Ol' USECA gotta newsletter, lordy it is swank,
 Award winning paper, of the highest rank.
 And when we get together for a Field Day or a swap
 There's always lots of happy folks to make the party hop.
 Lots a food that is, QRM band, Radio operatin'!

It's time for you to join USECA, and become our kin
 An' we would all be happy hams fer' you kindly joinin' in
 Everyone is always welcomed at our locality
 T' have a heapin' helpin' of ham hospitality.
 USECA, that is! Set a spell, make a contact.
 Y'all come back, here!

USECA VE Testing

Examinations for an Amateur License are held the on the first Saturday of each month (except July and August). Starting time is 7:15 p.m. — please do not arrive earlier. Walk-ins are welcomed. Pre-registration is preferred. Test site is at the Salvation Army, 55 Church, Mt. Clemens. If testing, you must have the following: picture ID (or birth certificate); and a copy of your current license or completion certificates, if any. For more information and directions to the test site, call Bill, N8SA at: (810) 468-8345; (before 9:00 p.m.).



Jackets—\$45.00 • Sweatshirts—\$25.00
 Polo Shirts—\$22.00 • Caps—\$6.00
 (2X & 3X—Additional Charge)
Contact: Richard, KB8WTH
At Meetings or Phone (810) 791-4669

The *USECA EXPRESS* is published monthly (except July and August), by the UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC., of Macomb County, Michigan. Club meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month (except July and August), 7:30 p.m., local time, at the Donald Bemis Junior High School, 12500 Nineteen Mile Road (between Schoenherr and Clinton River Road), Sterling Heights, Michigan *Visitors are always welcome.* Articles for the *EXPRESS* should be submitted to the editor no later than the night of the club meeting for publication in the following month's edition. The articles within are those of the author and not necessarily endorsed by USECA. Material contained in the *EXPRESS* may be reprinted provided credit is given to the *USECA EXPRESS* and the author, except material published by permission of a copyright holder. To get a message to the Board or the Membership Secretary, please call our answering machine at: (810) 268-6730. The awards for "Excellent" (1994) and three times "Superior" (1995, 1996 and 1997) were received from ARNS (Amateur Radio News Service).

USECA 1998 VHF Net Points As Received By November 7th

Call	Name	pts	Call	Name	pts	Call	Name	pts
KA0RYI	JIM	6	KC8GKT	GARY	1	K8NDY	DAN	22
W1HK	JIM	125	KC8GMT	LORA	105	W8NG	JIM	23
N1TQP	DAVE	1	KC8NIH	KEVIN	4	N8NMX	BILL	2
KA2IBE	JOHN	75	WA8GOL	DAN	11	N8NQQ	BIFF	9
WX3L	MIKE	1	KC8GRZ	JERRY	2	N8OAE	ERNIE	8
WX3M	DON	1	KC8GUC	LENNY	44	N8ODY	STEVE	1
VE3SUB	TERRY	3	KC8GUE	MIKE	47	K8OEF	JOE	1
VE3TBI	TIM	1	KC8GXE	PATRICK	1	N8OEF	VAL	52
VE3VDF	MARK	3	W89H	GORDY	11	N8OEV	DAVE	14
VA3WLC	WES	1	WA8HHH	JERRY	1	N8OEX	EARL	2
KE4CFV	BILL	1	KC8HMG	JANICE	185	W88OIS	LEN	1
KC4ITU	DWIGHT	7	KC8HJM	RICH	2	N8OKW	JIM	18
KE4MTM	MIKE	9	KC8HMM	SAM	67	AA8OZ	PAUL	14
KC4ZHC	STEVE	2	KC8HMR	SCOTT	5	N8PDP	MICHAEL	38
KM5D	ERIC	2	KB8HSR	TIM	1	K8PLW	DAN	19
N8AFB	BOB	1	KF8HT	CHUCK	21	K8QLM	RICHARD	247
N8AFC	LARRY	1	N8HTV	JOHN	2	K88QMP	BILL	5
KB8AKS	JERRY	4	KC8HYM	JOHN	1	K88QMS	NANCY	60
KC8ARS	HENRY	7	KC8HYU	JON	139	W88QNI	VANCE	1
N8ASD	LARRY	1	N8HZE	KEN	14	N89CQ	TOM	1
KB8BW	TONY	1	KC8IAO	PEGGY	10	K88PFJ	DAVE	7
KC8BFP	MARK	28	KC8IAP	MARY	175	N8QXP	CHUCK	1
KC8BFF	MARK	1	KC8IAQ	DAVE	294	N8RAR	WAYNE	11
W8BHF	BOB	4	W8IC	PHIL	1	K88RBV	MANNY	8
KC8BIU	TED	3	KC8IDG	KEVIN	20	N8RER	BOB	1
KB8BMY	MIKE	2	KG8IE	SCOTT	2	N8REZ	MARK	3
KB8BSG	CARL	1	KG8IF	ANN	43	KF8RG	KEN	32
KC8BSG	CARL	1	W8BIFL	DAVE	14	N8RHT	RICK	2
AB8BT	ANDY	100	KC8IHK	SHAWN	14	W8RO	FLOYD	71
KC8BXD	HENRY	11	KC8IMP	TOBY	1	N8RRU	JERRY	14
K8CFY	JERRY	40	KC8IPE	AMY	5	N8RRY	ERIC	1
WD8CMS	ED	1	KC8IPF	DENISE	8	K88RSO	OWEN	1
KC8CPQ	ROGER	1	W8IR	MARK	39	N8RUE	EDDIE	10
KC8CPT	DON	53	W8BITJ	JACK	2	N8SA	BILL	15
AB8CQ	MIKE	2	KC8IXY	GAIL	17	N8SCQ	BOB	1
KC8BDB	BILL	62	KC8IZG	DAVE	17	N8SH	BETTY	35
KC8DDL	ANDY	1	KC8JBK	CHARLIE	2	K8BTAS	JERRY	52
KB8DFJ	LEE	1	KC8JMP	JOHN	36	K8BTEZ	MATT	11
W8DFG	DENNIS	72	K8JN	FRANK	1	N8TMJ	MARIANNE	44
KC8DIR	BRIAN	170	WA8JPR	BILL	28	N8TMN	DAVE	1
KC8DPO	RON	3	KC8JSF	JEFF	3	W8TSG	GEORGE	1
KC8DPT	TOM	3	KC8JSH	DELPHINE	24	W8TUF	TED	5
KB8DSC	JOHN	1	BILL	3	N8TVN	STEVE	4	
N8DVO	FRED	14	N8JXX	DENNIS	5	W88UKU	CHRIS	1
K8DZT	FRANK	1	KC8KBO	CHARLES	5	KB8ULS	ROGER	5
KC8DZT	TOM	5	KC8KBQ	ERNIE	1	K8BUM	MURRAY	3
W8BE	WALT	62	W8KC	PAUL	29	KA8UUV	JOE	2
KC8ECB	KEN	1	KC8KIP	SCOTT	2	WU8V	KURT	2
KC8EDK	BRIAN	3	KC8KIR	MATT	5	K8VAC	RAYMOND	1
WD8EEU	BOB	1	KC8KJL	BRIAN	1	W8VB	DAVE	155
KC8EHV	KEITH	1	KC8KJN	STEVE	4	N8VBK	JIM	2
KB8EOD	MIKE	4	N8KND	DOUG	8	WA8VJ	GULLIVER	1
KC8EPQ	ROGER	8	KC8KNJ	FLORIN	1	N8VLY	JOAN	3
N8ERV	TOM	6	KC8KRJ	DENNIS	2	N8VVH	LINDA	3
KC8EZW	MARK	10	KC8KSF	JEFF	1	W8WBF	BOB	1
KC8FDQ	DUSTIN	1	K8KV	BEN	3	K88WBV	KEN	3
KC8FRW	JOHN	70	KB8LAG	CLAYTON	2	K88WG	LEE	10
KC8FRY	DON	2	KC8LAH	STU	4	KB8WH	DAVE	17
K8FT	JIM	3	KC8LDM	MIKE	1	K88WLR	CHUCK	2
KC8FTW	JOHN	1	KB8LPY	ANDY	1	K88WTH	RICHARD	78
KC8FTX	LEO	3	KC8LPY	DAVE	1	KY8X	JOE	39
W88FUI	PHIL	10	WY8M	ARPAD	26	KF8XO	JEFF	3
KC8FXF	MIKE	8	KB8MBC	NORM	1	N8YBY	LEN	30
KC8FYP	GEORGE	3	N8MCD	JIM	18	N8YJI	DINA	24
KC8FYQ	GERALD	10	AA8MF	BILL	2	N8YTV	HARRY	3
KC8FYR	BRENT	14	W8MIR	JOHN	11	N8YVS	STAN	1
KB8EO	GEORGE	9	N8MIV	NORM	2	K88YX	DOC	102
KC8GFN	DAVE	11	K8MKA	STAG	4	KB8YYA	DREUX	45

Displayed 210 of 304

Call	Name	pts
KB8YYB	DEBBIE	17
N8ZFA	PETE	1
N8ZZE	JOHN	1
N8ZZF	PAT	14
KZ8ZZ	LES	6
K9GUY	GARY	3

Top 20 VHF Operators

Call	Name	pts	
1	KC8IAQ	DAVE	294
2	K8QLM	RICHARD	247
3	KC8HMG	JANICE	185
4	KC8IAP	MARY	175
5	KC8DIR	BRIAN	170
6	W8VB	DAVE	155
7	KC8HYU	JON	139
8	W1HK	JIM	125
9	KC8GMT	LORA	105
10	KG8YX	DOC	102
11	AB8BT	ANDY	100
12	KB8WTH	RICHARD	78
13	KA2IBE	JOHN	75
14	W8DFG	DENNIS	72
15	W8RO	FLOYD	71
16	KC8FRW	JOHN	70
17	KC8HMM	SAM	67
18	KC8DBG	BILL	62
19	W8BE	WALT	62
20	KB8QMS	NANCY	60

Top HF operators

Call	Name	pts	
1	K8QLM	RICHARD	274
2	KC8GMT	LORA	220
3	KA2IBE	JOHN	136
4	WA8JPR	BILL	126
5	KC8IAQ	DAVE	126
6	W8RO	FLOYD	96
7	KC8HMG	JANICE	78
8	KF8RG	KEN	78
9	KG8YX	DOC	71
10	KB8TAS	JERRY	54
11	KC8IAP	MARY	51
12	W8DFG	DENNIS	33
13	W8BE	WALT	28
14	AA8DD	BOB	24
15	KC8GUC	LENNY	23
16	W8IR	MARK	19
17	K8WI	BILL	18
18	W1HK	JIM	16
19	N8WYO	AL	16
20	KG8WH	DAVE	14

Database c/o KF8RG (Ken)
Software written by WU8C (Tom)

See USECA's "Net Point System
Explanation" for info on how
net points & awards are earned.

See or call Dave (KC8IAQ),
USECA's Net Manager,
for more information on
running a net and earning
extra points.

ALL '98 NET LOGS DUE BY 1/7/99

USECA Board Meeting Minutes—October 27, 1998

In attendance:

- W8DFG, Dennis President
- *KB8QMS, Nancy Vice-President
- KB8YYB, Debbi Recording Secretary
- W8IR, Mark Membership Secretary
- N8OKW, Jim Treasurer
- KC8IAQ, Dave Board Member
- KG8IF, Ann Board Member
- N8TMJ, Marianne Board Member
- W8RO, Floyd Past President
- *K8CFY, Jerry Historian
- K8OEF, Joe Express Editor
- W8VB, Dave ARRL Liaison
- *W8ZNT, Chris Swap Chairman
- *KG8IE, Scott Field Day Chairman
- N8KND, Doug Repeater Technician
- WB8E, Walt; KB8TAS, Jerry; WY8M, Arpad
- *Absent



The meeting was called to order by the President at 7:33 P.M.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

The Treasurer's report was approved.

Membership: Current membership exceeds 235.

Repeater: Doug, N8KND, expressed his gratitude to John, K8ZEC, for his skill and expertise. The repeater is now back to 100 watts.

Express: Articles will be due at the meeting on November 10, 1998. Look for the new 3 column format in the Express.

ARRL: No report.

Health and Welfare: Cards went out to the following: Doc, KG8YX, Richard, K8QLM, Jerry, K8CFY, Elizabeth, N8XCZ, Jim, W11K, Randy, KB8QXD, and Sam, KC8HMM.

Old Business:

Christmas Party: Ann, KG8IF, brought forth pertinent information regarding this year's party. Money for the party will be collected at the October and November meetings. The 1999 Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 11, 1999.

Discussion ensued concerning "newsletter only" subscriptions. A motion was made by Jim, N8OKW, seconded by Mark, W8IR and passed to accept no further "newsletter only" subscriptions effective October 27, 1998.

New Business:

Dialog began regarding a financial policy. Jim, N8OKW, recommended that we adopt guidelines for our finances. He will submit possible guidelines in writing at the December, 1998 Board meeting.

Dennis, W8DFG, announced that the November, 1998, December, 1998, and February, 1999 USECA General Membership meetings will be held at the Salvation Army in Mt. Clemens.

Nominations will be at the November, 1998 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 P.M.

Respectively submitted,

Debbi Cokewell, KB8YYB
Recording Secretary



USECA General Meeting Minutes—November 10, 1998

In attendance:

- W8DFG, Dennis President
- KB8QMS, Nancy Vice-President
- KB8YYB, Debbi Recording Secretary
- W8IR, Mark Membership Secretary
- N8OKW, Jim Treasurer
- KC8IAQ, Dave Board Member
- KG8IF, Ann Board Member
- N8TMJ, Marianne Board Member
- W8RO, Floyd Past President
- K8CFY, Jerry Historian
- K8OEF, Joe Express Editor
- W8VB, Dave ARRL Liaison
- KB8YYB, Debbi Swap Chairman
- WB8E, Walt Field Day Chairman
- *N8KND, Doug Repeater Technician
- *Absent

The meeting was called to order by the President at 7:36 P.M.

New upgrades were recognized.

A motion was made by Dreux, KB8YYA, seconded by Jerry, KB8TAS, and passed to accept the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the Express.

A motion was made by Floyd, W8RO, seconded by Pete, N8ZFA, and passed to accept the Treasurer's report.

Membership: Current 1998 paid membership is in excess of 231.

Repeater: Arpad, W8YM, reported that the north site antenna has been moved up to the top of the tower. The back up repeater will be installed on top of Mt. Clemens General Hospital. There will be a Tech Committee meeting on November 17, 1998, 7:00 P.M. at Doug's, N8KND house.

Express: Articles for the Express are due tonight.

Net Manager: NCO's are needed for all nets, in particular the Monday evening Slow Code Net. Join the fun and see Dave, KC8IAQ, to volunteer. Be Sure to check into the new Slow Code Net on Thursday night on 21.140.

Health and Welfare: Marianne, N8TMJ, recapitulated information regarding cards that have been recently sent.

Testing: Testing will continue to be the first Saturday of each month at the Salvation Army in Mt. Clemens. Also, the ham radio open house will continue every Saturday evening from 7:00-11:00 P.M.

Apparel: See Delphine, KC8JSH, or Richard, KB8WTH, to order shirts, jackets, and hats.

Hosts: Many thanks to this month's host, the luscious Laura, STUDYING. Next month's hosts will be Chuck, KF8HT, and Lenny, KC8GUC.

Old Business:

Road Rally: Jim, N8OKW, announced the 10th Annual Thumbs Up Rally in Imlay City on Saturday, November 14, 1998. See Jim to volunteer to help with this fun event.

Christmas Party: Ann, KG8IF, promulgated that the Christmas Party will be at Gar Wood's on Saturday, December 5, 1998. Cocktails (cash bar) at 6:30 P.M., buffet dinner at 7:30 P.M. The cost will be \$15.00 per person. Bill, N8SA, has volunteered to handle the white elephant. Deadline for payment is Saturday, November 28, 1998.

New Business:

It was announced that Bill, N8SA, will be starting a Technician Plus Class in January, 1999 at the Salvation Army. He is looking for any willing volunteers.

SELL and WANTS

COMPUTER Speakers. Altec Lansing ACS160, for games and multimedia, 3-piece including sub-woofer, like new. \$95. Contact Joe, K8OEF (810) 781-0050 eves.

EPSON Apex Action Printer L1000, 24 pin dot matrix printer. Excellent condition and works beautifully. Comes with tractor feed, as well as plain paper feed; owners manual and software. First \$30 takes it. Call Floyd at (248) 391-6660 or e-mail: hires@rust.net.

WANTED: Kenwood TS-50S in good working condition. Contact Floyd, W8RO, at (248) 391-6660 or e-mail: hires@rust.net

YAESU FT-736R satellite rig. 35W 2m and 440, 10W 6m module, FTS-8 tone board (installed), 100 memory locations, Packet ready, C.A.T. compatible. All manuals and factory packaging. Purchased new at last year's USECA swap. This rig brought in 50 2m SSB contacts at this year's USECA field day. Almost \$2400 invested, asking \$1900 or best. Contact Patrick, KC8HNQ; (248) 682-5586 evenings; (248) 619-2232 days or e-mail: c172capt@aol.com

ZENITH AT compatible 640k memory 2 5-1/4 floppies with keyboard and monitor make offer. Intel 386 tower with 8 Mb of memory, 720k floppy and 40 Mb hard drive with keyboard and no monitor. Make offer. n8erv@tir.com; pager (810) 485-2118; (810)-324-6086.

★New this month.

Notify the editor to have items added/removed.

The above column is for club members only and it's free!



Amazing—From Page 8

You should now have a three digit number:

The first digit of this was your original number (i.e. how many times you want to go out each week).

The second two digits are your age!

This is the only year (1998) it will ever work, so spread the fun around by mailing this to your pals.



Read This—From Page 8

There are six "F's". The human brain tends to see the F in "OF" as a "V" Rarely will anyone find more than three "F's" in the sentence

A Sense of a Goose

When you see geese flying along in "V" formation, you might consider what science has discovered as to why they fly that way. As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in "V" formation, the whole flock adds at least 71 percent greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.

People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going more quickly and easily because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone—and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird in front.

If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those people who are headed the same way we are.

When the head goose gets tired, it rotates back in the wing and another goose flies point.

It is sensible to take turns doing demanding jobs, whether with people or with geese flying south.

Geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

What messages do we give when we honk from behind?

Finally—and this is important—when a goose gets sick or is wounded by gunshot, and falls out of formation, two other geese fall out with that goose and follow it down to lend help and protection. They stay with the fallen goose until it is able to fly or until it dies, and only then do they launch out on their own, or with another formation to catch up with their group.

If we have the sense of a goose, we will stand by each other like that.

—By Source Unknown—Internet



Still Going—Continued from Page 2

Briefs:

The Board voted to eliminate the "Newsletter Only" subscriptions. The USECA Application now reflects this change with a "Rev. 12/98" notation. The current newsletter only subscribers will be "grandfathered" as long as they continually renew.

For the record, the Romeo receive site upgrade took place on November 6th.

73 for now.



Math & Business

Engineers and scientists will never make as much money as business executives.

Now we have a mathematical proof that explains why this is true:

Postulate 1: Knowledge is Power.

Postulate 2: Time is Money.

As every engineer knows,
Work/Time = Power

Since Knowledge = Power, and Time = Money, we have:

Work/Money = Knowledge

Solving for Money, we get:

Work/Knowledge = Money

Thus, as Knowledge approaches zero, Money approaches infinity regardless of the amount of Work done.

Conclusion: The Less you Know, the More you Make.

Note: It has been speculated that the reason why Bill Gates dropped out of Harvard's math program was because he stumbled upon this proof as an undergraduate, and dedicated the rest of his career to the pursuit of ignorance.



Knowing Code—Continued from Page 3 crowded amateur spectrum far more efficiently. It's also the mode of choice for much of the rare DX you'll want to chase once on the HF bands." (KF8RG)

(By the way, cooking over fire is very old fashioned, would you be willing to give it up to eat only steaks cooked in a microwave?)

8. "...I don't really care about code, cuz' I'm havin' way too much fun now explorin' 6 meters and up!"

No rebuttal here! Enjoyin' the hobby and exploring the privileges you have are what this hobby is all about. There's absolutely *no need* to make up a reason for not knowing code or increasing your speed if you're content with the license you now hold!

—Submitted by Ken, KF8RG

NAME BADGES

With The OFFICIAL USECA Logo

Contact Debbi, KB8YYB: (810) 263-0227

What is a USECA?—Continued from Page 1

Personalities vary from crazy party animals to quiet and refined, members from every walk of life, income, education and cultural backgrounds. Singles and couples are represented. We have even had some singles join the club that have become couples. Our membership profile is always changing, entrepreneurs to students, male/female ratio, and age ranges. With so much variety you are certain to find many members you'll relate to. Different members attend each event and new members are constantly joining, so—the more events you attend, the more new people you'll meet. Membership is an unbeatable value for this feature alone, but there's so much more.

Membership is in the cozy two hundreds, just right to get to know the members, and not too big that you get lost in the crowd. Although primarily a radio club, radio is used as an excuse for many other activities such as EATING and camping. (The E and C in USECA). Helping people is a common thread throughout USECA's ham radio club/hobby.

USECA can provide a life long avenue of education to communication, but USECA can also be a tie that binds friends together. USECA is one of, if not the, most social club you'll ever find. Many members renew year after year having formed friendships, that they look forward to meetings or events so they may enjoy each other, every month with those friends.

Some members may not be as fortunate as I have been by getting involved and participating in amateur radio events, and the club. I have made many good friends, people that otherwise would be missing from my life, if not for ham radio—friends, not just acquaintances—friendships that will last a lifetime.

USECA has something for everyone. I decided the club needed a way to express itself, so I wrote the words for a song to the tune of the Beverly Hillbillies, and I sent it to Phil (W8IC) for him to critique. Phil made the necessary changes, and with his expertise as a musician /vocalist, we (Phil & myself), came up with the following song [Page 11—Ed.]—(Thanks Phil).

Hearing Problem

Seems an elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years.

He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%. The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, "your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased you can hear again."

To which the gentleman said, "Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!"

Christmas Party—Continued from Page 1

Also per popular vote, the "white elephant" exchange will be done. Bill, N8SA will be your host for this hilarious event. If you bring a gift, you get a gift. Be warned, if you pick something of interest to others, it can and probably will be taken by someone else! Remember the little red wagon making its rounds? If you can, bring something from around the house that you don't need or want anymore. It doesn't have to be ham related. If you get stuck with the horrible mushroom cookie jar, put it away—you now have NEXT year's white elephant!

Please make your reservations with me by Saturday, November 28. First come, first served—we will be maxed out at 100. Checks should be payable to USECA. Looking forward to another great party!

73.

Listening—Continued from Page 7

The clouds have remained parted in Mr. Beers' life. In 1986, he added a degree in British history to his resume, graduating magna cum laude from CU, at the age of 73.

From her latest watercolor collection, Mrs. Beers— also an award-winning children's book author—pulls out a painting of a man surrounded by trees. Mr. Beers continues to hike nearly every day, she explains. The man in the painting is not wearing any headphones.

"No," she says. "He doesn't take his radio with him when he hikes." Always on.

Yardley Beers sits in his basement and picks up his headphones. He is fully dressed.

"Is this frequency in use? Is this frequency in use?" he asks. "Calling CQ Calling CQ. Calling CQ."

Empty static.

"He makes it so hard for himself," Mrs. Beers says. "He uses such a low frequency."

Mr. Beers looks up.

"That's the challenge," he says, and smiles.

"Calling CQ, Calling CQ," he continues.

"This is WOJF, Boulder Colorado," he says.

"This is WOJF, calling and standing by..."

—Submitted by Floyd, W8RO

Volume III, Issue 13: Sept.30—Oct. 6, 1998

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Meeting Minutes—Continued from Page 12

Walt, WB8E, apprised the membership of plans for the upcoming Field Day. Walt also revealed the results from Field Day 1998. USECA placed 5th overall with 18,650 points, and we were 1st in class.

Dreux, KB8YYA, blazoned news of the monthly Ham Radio dinners. Last month there were 38 in attendance at the Polish Cultural Center. The December, 1998 dinner will be at Louis' in Hazel Park, please notify Dreux ahead of time if you plan to attend.

Nominations were opened and will be kept open until the December 8, 1999 meeting. Nominated at the November, 1998 meeting were:

- President—Dennis, W8DFG
 - Vice President—Nancy, KB8QMS
 - Treasurer—Jim, N8OKW
 - Membership—Mark, W8IR
 - Recording Secretary—Debbi, KB8YYB
- Board Members:

- Ann, KG8IF
- Dave, KC8IAQ
- Marianne, N8TMJ
- Betty, N8SIH
- Dave, W8VB
- Dreux, KB8YYA
- Pete, N8ZFA

Elections will be held at the December 8, 1998 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

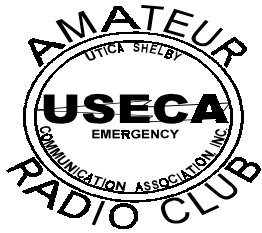
Respectfully submitted,

Debbi Cokewell, KB8YYB
Recording Secretary



Dina, N8YJI, at November's meeting—proud to wear her USECA Field Day Shirt!

USECA APPLICATION



DATE _____ NEW RENEWAL
 CALL _____ CLASS _____ AUTO-PATCH _____
 NAME _____
 STREET ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 TELEPHONE # _____ PRINT IN ROSTER YES NO
 BIRTHDATE _____ Copy of Current License for USECA File
 MEMBER: ARRL YES NO RACES YES NO

Rev. 12/98

For Family Memberships Only:

CALL _____ CLASS _____
 NAME _____
 BIRTHDATE _____
 MEMBER: ARRL YES NO
 RACES YES NO

CALL _____ CLASS _____
 NAME _____
 BIRTHDATE _____
 MEMBER: ARRL YES NO
 RACES YES NO

Annual Membership Dues Regular: \$20 — Family: \$30 — Auto-Patch: \$35 (One Time Fee) + Annual Dues
 Applications can be given to the Membership Secretary at monthly meeting or mailed.
 Please make check payable to: **USECA** — Address: **P.O. Box 1222, Sterling Heights, MI 48311-1222**
 (Allow 4-6 weeks for processing.)

2-Meter LANs

Local Area Nets

DAY	TIME	CLUB	FREQ.
SUN	1:00 pm	USECA/Information	147.180
SUN	8:00 pm	SPIRIT of '76/Traders	146.760
SUN	9:00 pm	HPARC/DART	146.640
SUN	9:00 pm	Garden City ARC	146.860
SUN-SAT	10:15 pm	S. E. Michigan Traffic Net	145.330
MON	8:00 pm	MECA	147.200
MON	9:00 pm	USECA/Slow Code	147.180
TUE	8:00 pm	USECA/Information	147.180
TUE	9:00 pm	Motor City Radio Club	147.240
WED	8:00 pm	GMARC	146.700
WED	8:00 pm	SPIRIT of '76/Info./Traders	146.760
WED	8:00 pm	SMART/ARPSC	147.140
WED*	9:00 pm	SATERN	147.180
WED	9:00 pm	MICHIGAN QRP	145.170
THU	7:00 pm	HPARC/Kids	146.640
THU	8:00 pm	EDISON/Information	145.330
THU	9:00 pm	ECHO	147.080
FRI	Midnite	USECA/Hoot Owl	147.180

*First and Third Wednesdays Only.

On The World Wide Web

USECA Home Page

<http://members.home.net/dougk/useca.htm>

Net Ops Schedules

2-METER NETS

	SUN. 1 PM	MON. 9 PM**	TUES. 8 PM	FRI. MIDNIGHT
WEEK	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz
1	KG8IF	N8OEF	K8QLM	K8PLW
2	W8IR	W1IK	-OPEN-	KC8HMM
3	K8QLM	N8OEF	KC8IAP	KC8DIR
4	AB8BT	W1IK	KC8IAQ	KC8IAQ
5*	-OPEN-	N8OEF	AB8BT	-OPEN-

**Slow Code

HF NETS

	THURS. 9 PM	FRI. 10 PM	FRI. 11 PM
WEEK	21.140 MHz/CW	21.140 MHz/CW	28.425 MHz/USB
1	K8QLM	-OPEN-	KC8IAP
2	-OPEN-	K8QLM	KC8IAQ
3	-OPEN-	KC8IAQ	K8QLM
4	-OPEN-	-OPEN-	-OPEN-
5*	-OPEN-	-OPEN-	-OPEN-

*If applicable

NCO's—If you are unable to take your net,
 please get a replacement or contact Dave, KC8IAQ.

USECA Hot Line: (810) 268-6730

USECA

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. Box 1222 • Sterling Heights, MI 48311-1222



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DECEMBER 1998

"The Happenin' Club"

Club Activities

MONTH	DATE	TIME	EVENT
DEC	5	6:30 pm	11th Annual Christmas Party
DEC	8	7:30 pm	*General Meeting (Elections)
JAN	12	7:30 pm	General Meeting
FEB	9	7:30 pm	*General Meeting
MAR	9	7:30 pm	General Meeting

*At Salvation Army.

December Meeting Hosts

Chuck, KF8HT
Lenny, KC8GUC

Where's The Swaps?

Day	Month	Date	Where
SAT	JAN	16	Flint
SUN	JAN	17	Hazel Park

Source: QRV Bulletin & QST

6-METER NETS

	WED 7 PM	WED 8 PM
WEEK	50.130 MHz/USB	51.740 MHz/FM
1	W8VB	W8VB
2	K8QLM	K8QLM
3	N8YBY	KC8HYU
4	KC8IAQ	KC8IAQ
5*	KC8HYU	W8VB

*If applicable

NCO's—If you are unable to take your net,
please get a replacement or contact Dave, KC8IAQ.



Get Radioactive!
And Stay That Way!